

# Light Dark Matter through Resonance Scanning



Rachel Houtz  
Brookhaven Forum  
November, 2021

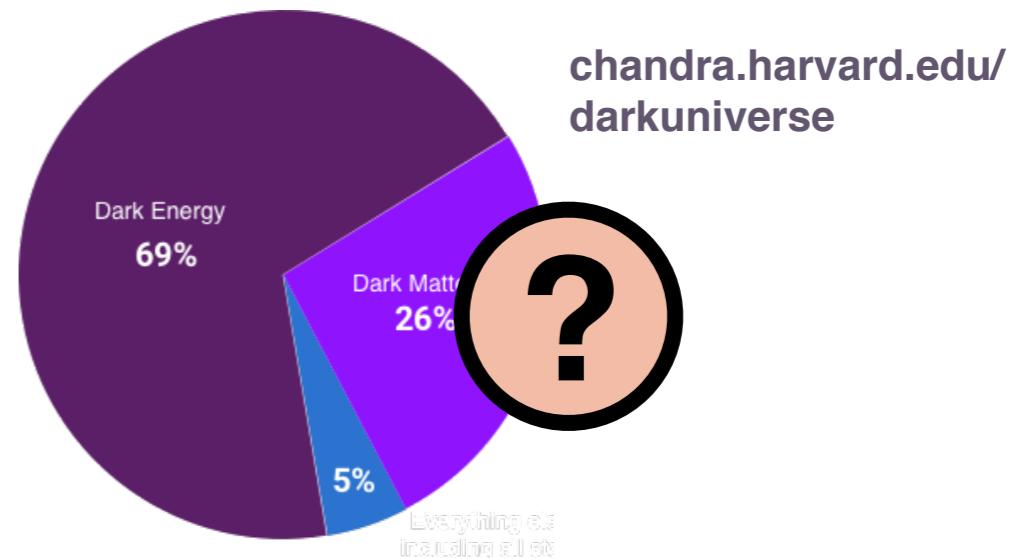
In Collaboration with D. Croon and G. White (TRIUMF),  
H. Murayama (UC Berkeley), G. Elor (U. Washington),  
arXiv:2012.15284

**Brookhaven Forum 2021**  
*Opening New Windows to the Universe (BF2021)*



# Motivation for dark matter

- ❖ Significant evidence for a new particle beyond the SM



## Galaxy rotation curves



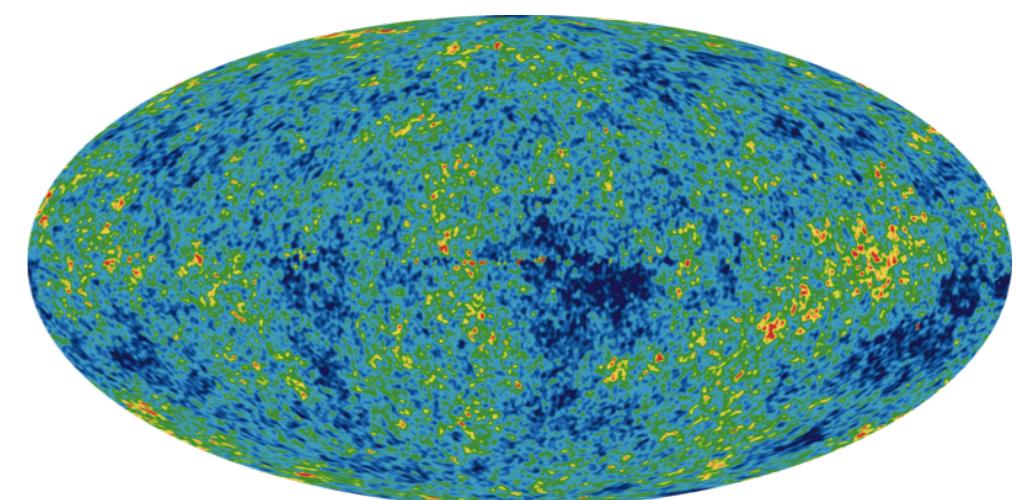
ESA/Hubble

## Gravitational lensing



[nasa.gov](http://nasa.gov)  
Markevitch et al., Clowe et al.

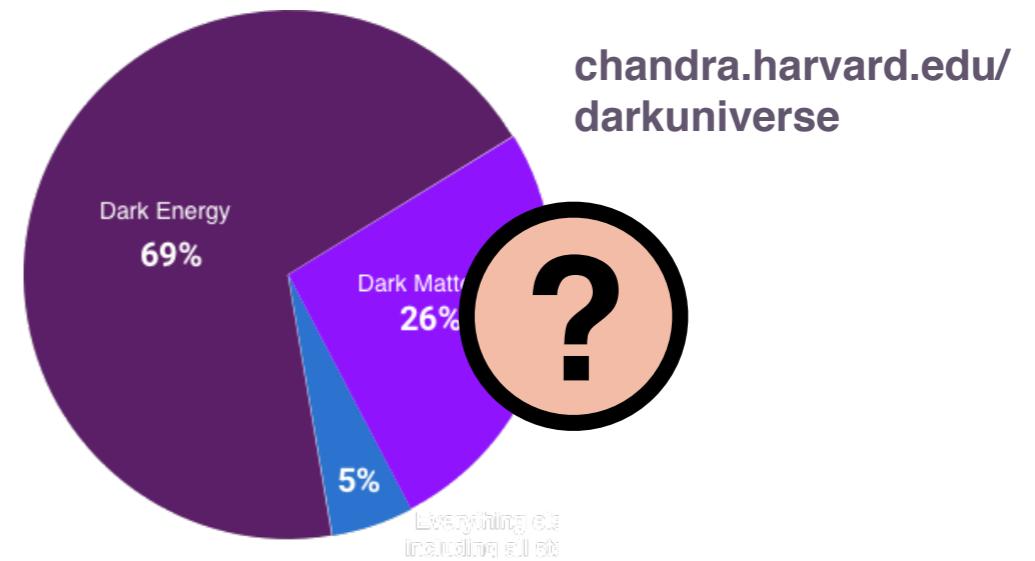
## Cosmic Microwave Background



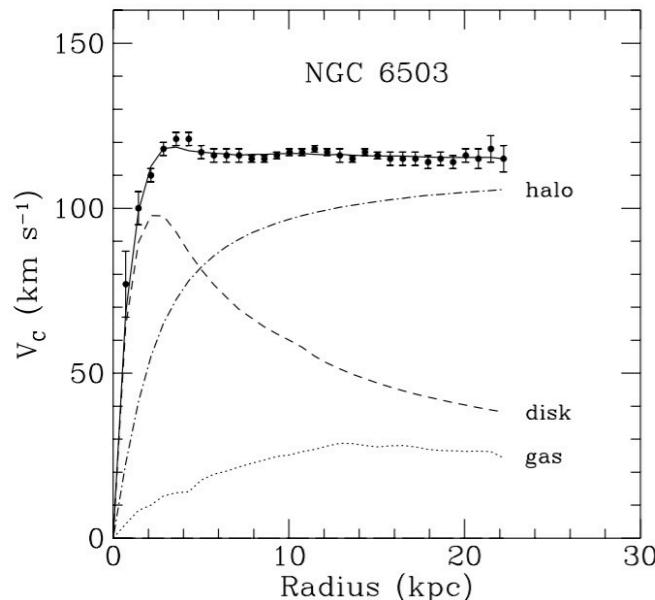
[wmap.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://wmap.gsfc.nasa.gov)

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## Galaxy rotation curves



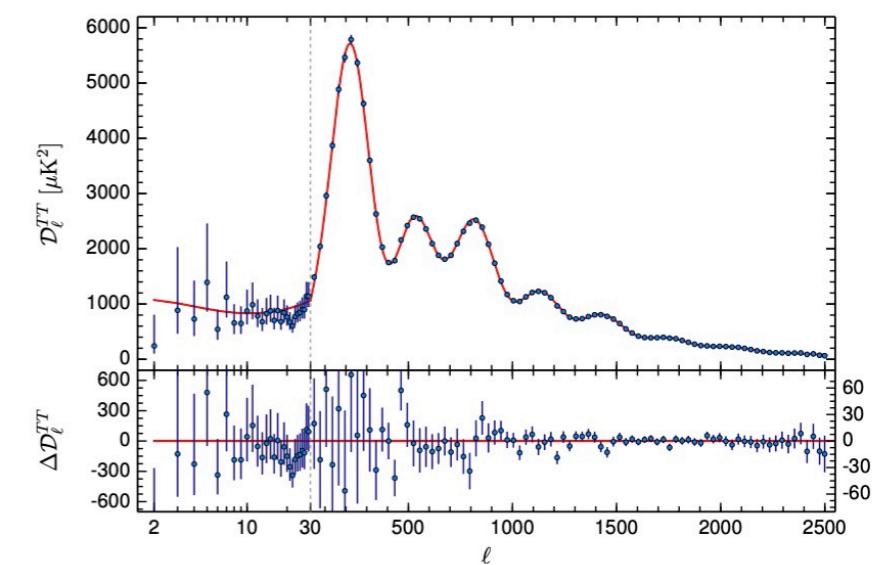
Begeman, Broeils, Sanders (1991)

## Gravitational lensing



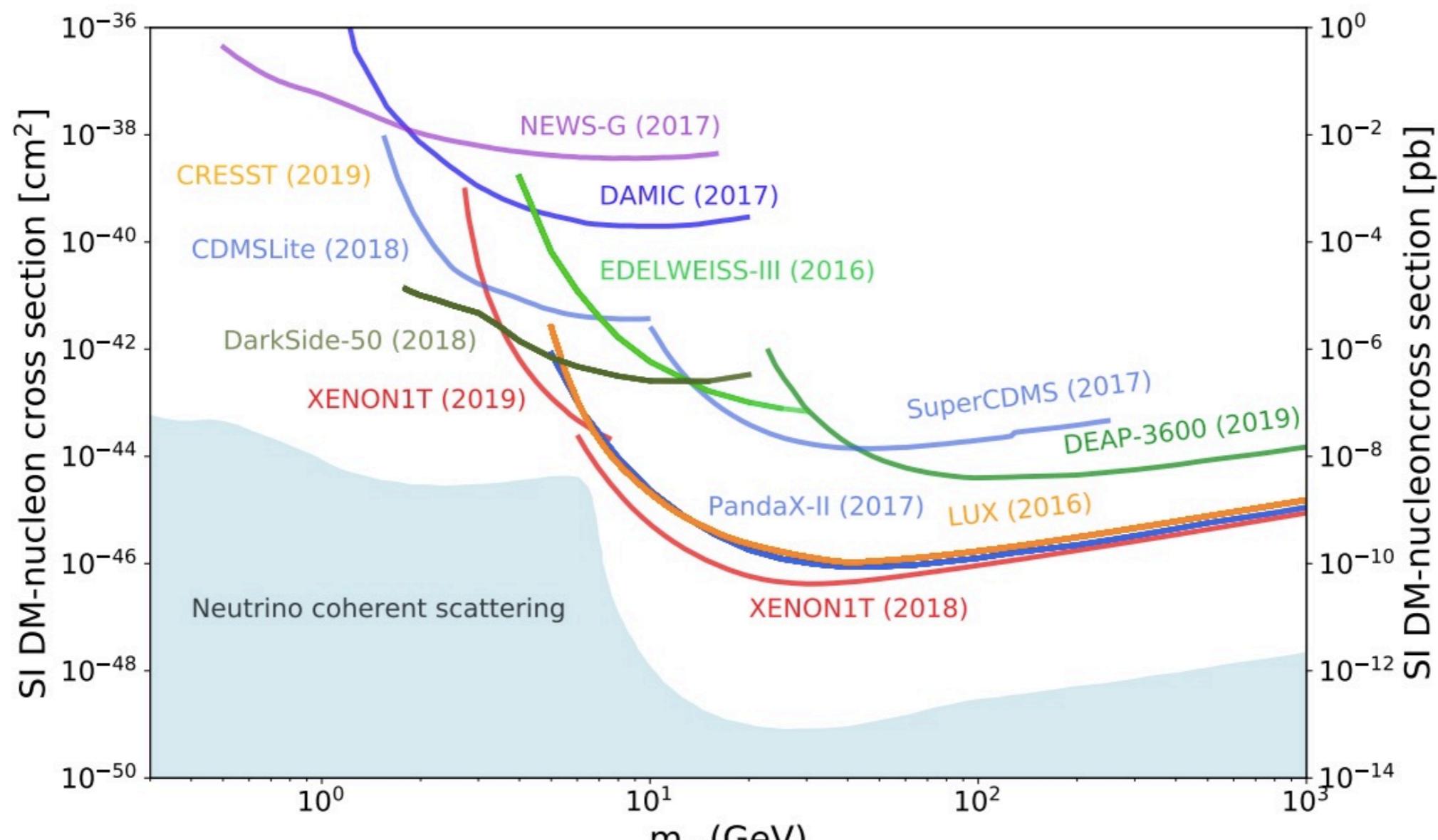
nasa.gov  
Markevitch et al., Clowe et al.

## Cosmic Microwave Background



Planck Collaboration, arXiv:1502.01589

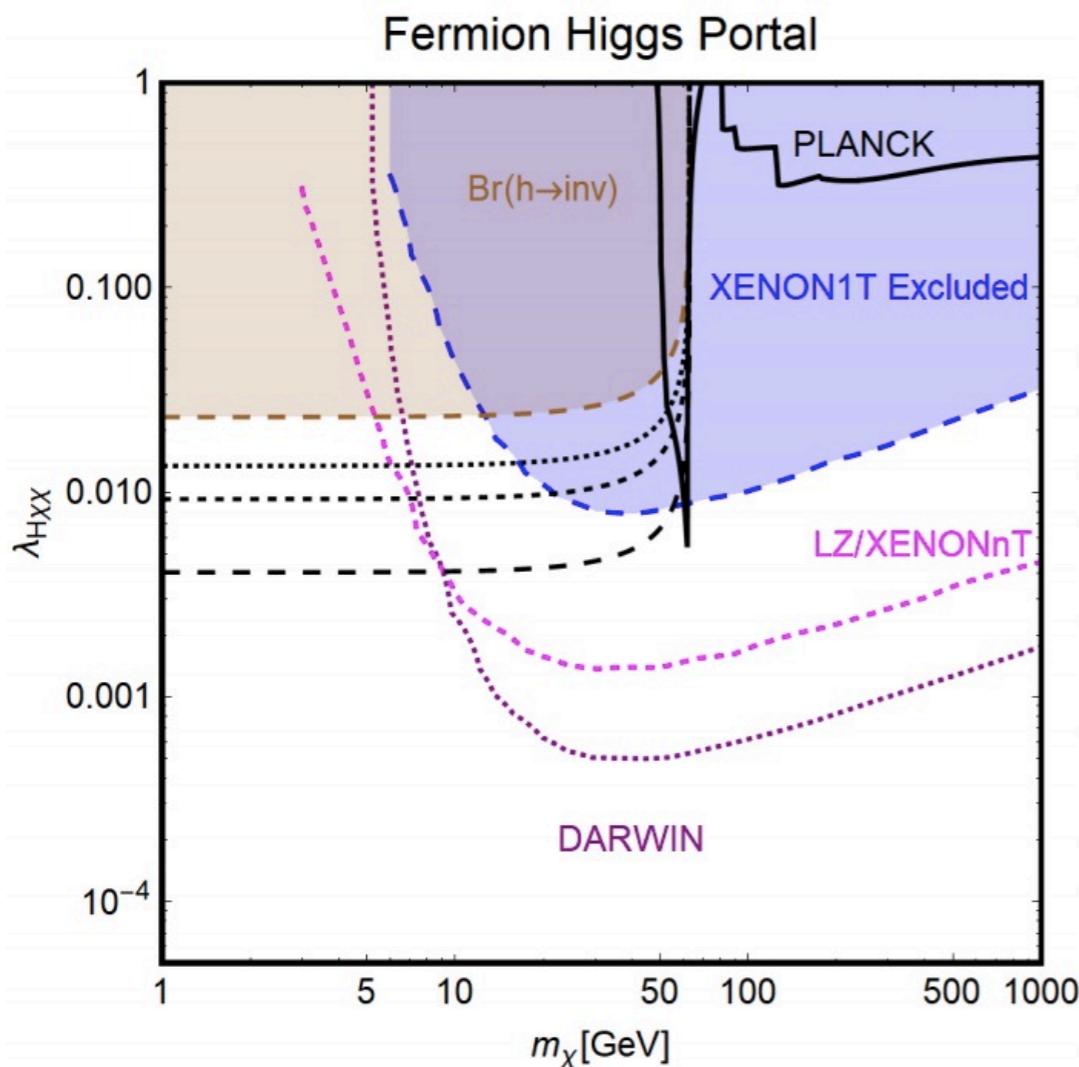
# WIMP dark matter



Baudis, Profumo, Particle Data Group (2020)

# The Higgs portal WIMP

- ❖ WIMP that interacts with the SM through the Higgs portal



$$\mathcal{L}_\chi = \frac{1}{2}\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\chi - \frac{1}{2}m_\chi\bar{\chi}\chi - \frac{1}{2}\lambda_{h\chi}h\bar{\chi}\chi$$

- ❖ The Higgs portal is only open right on the resonance  $2m_\chi \approx m_h$

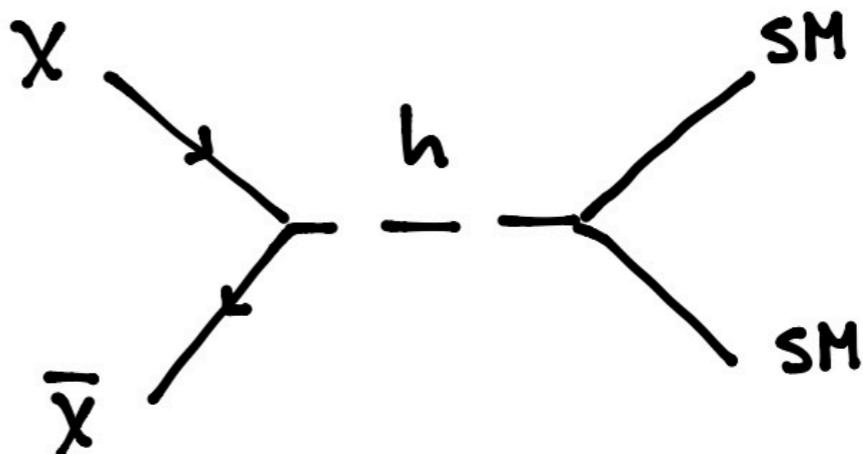


Figure from Arcadi, Djouadi, Raidal, arXiv:1903.03616

# The Higgs portal WIMP

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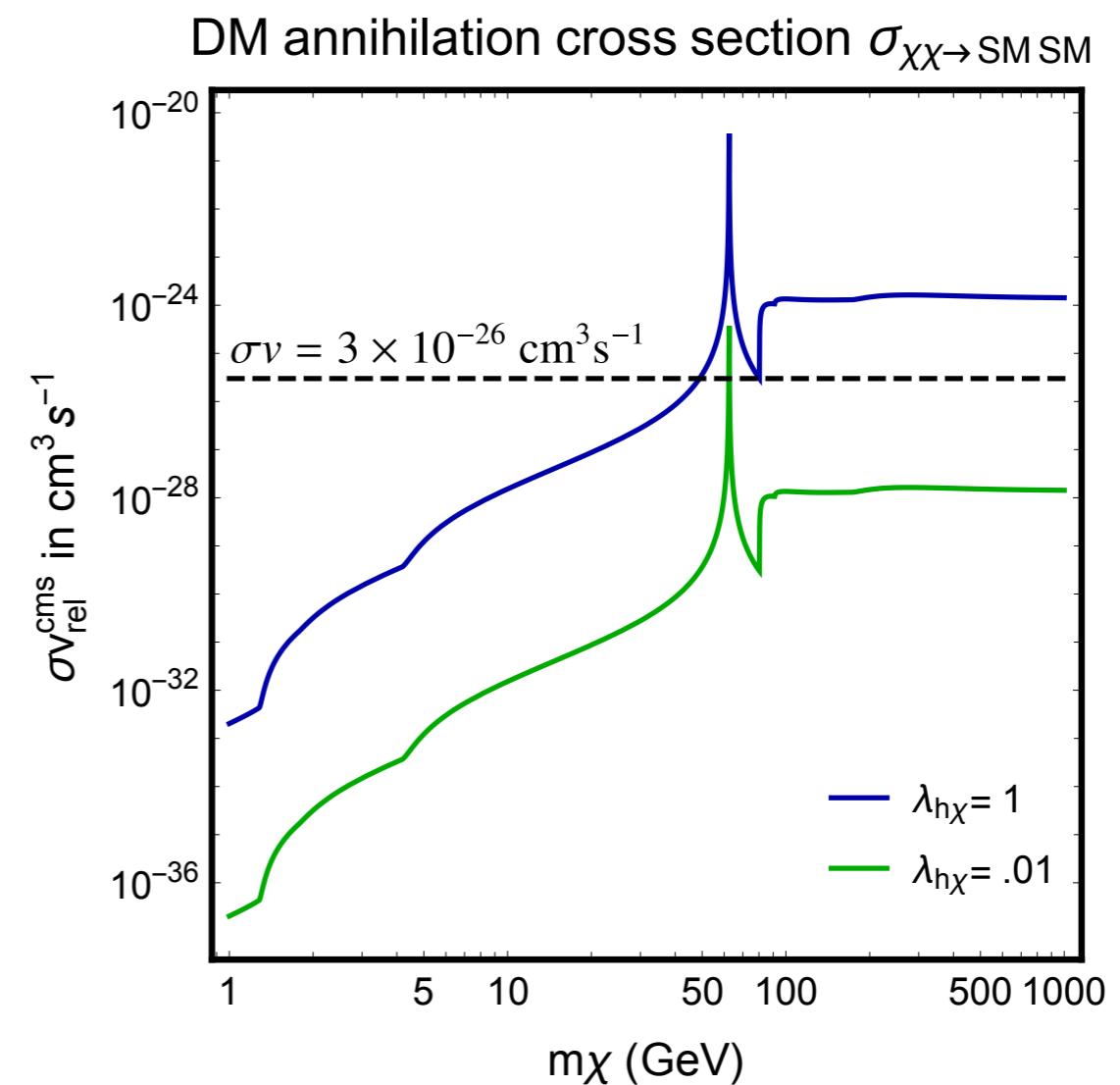
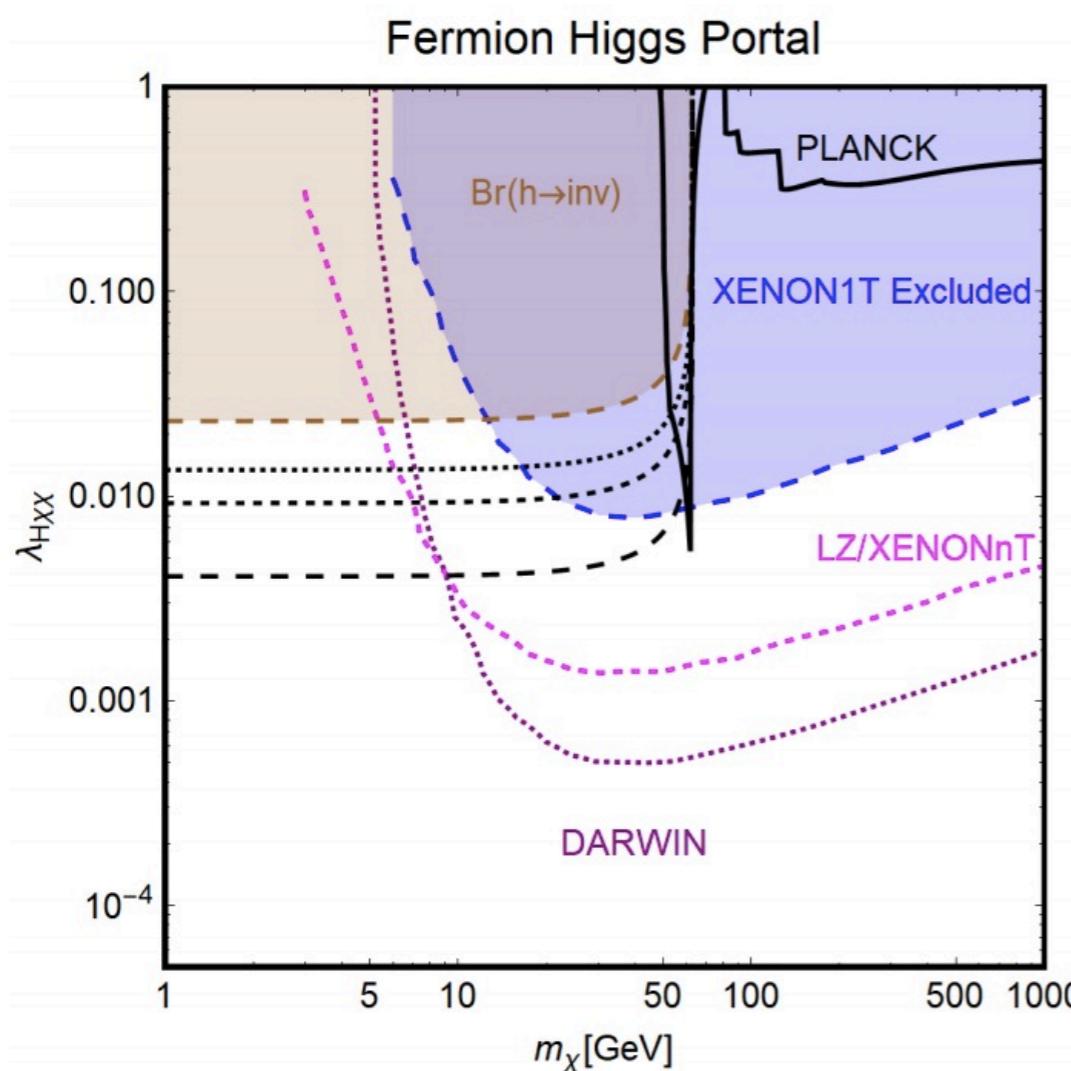
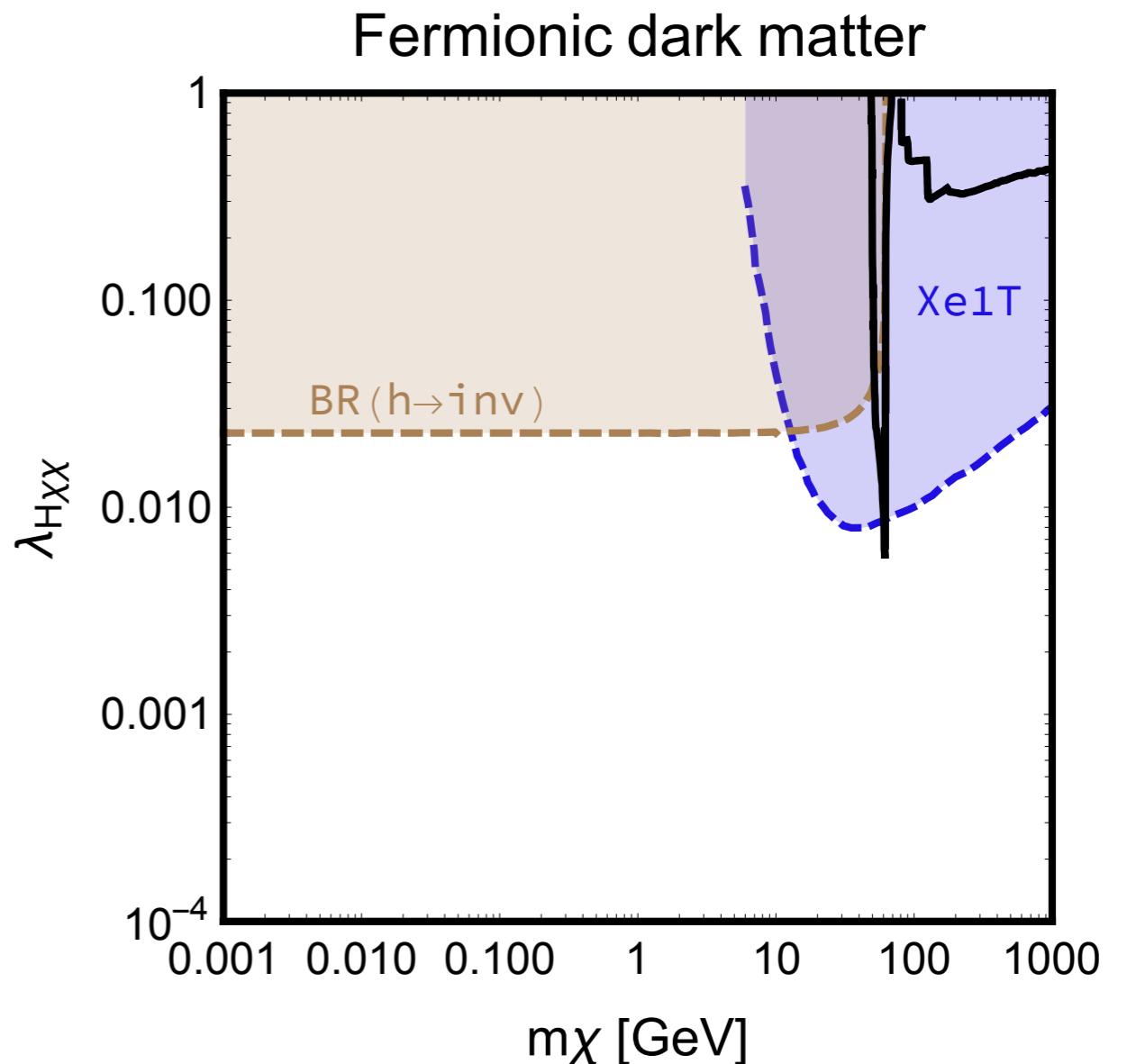


Figure from Arcadi, Djouadi, Raidal, arXiv:1903.03616

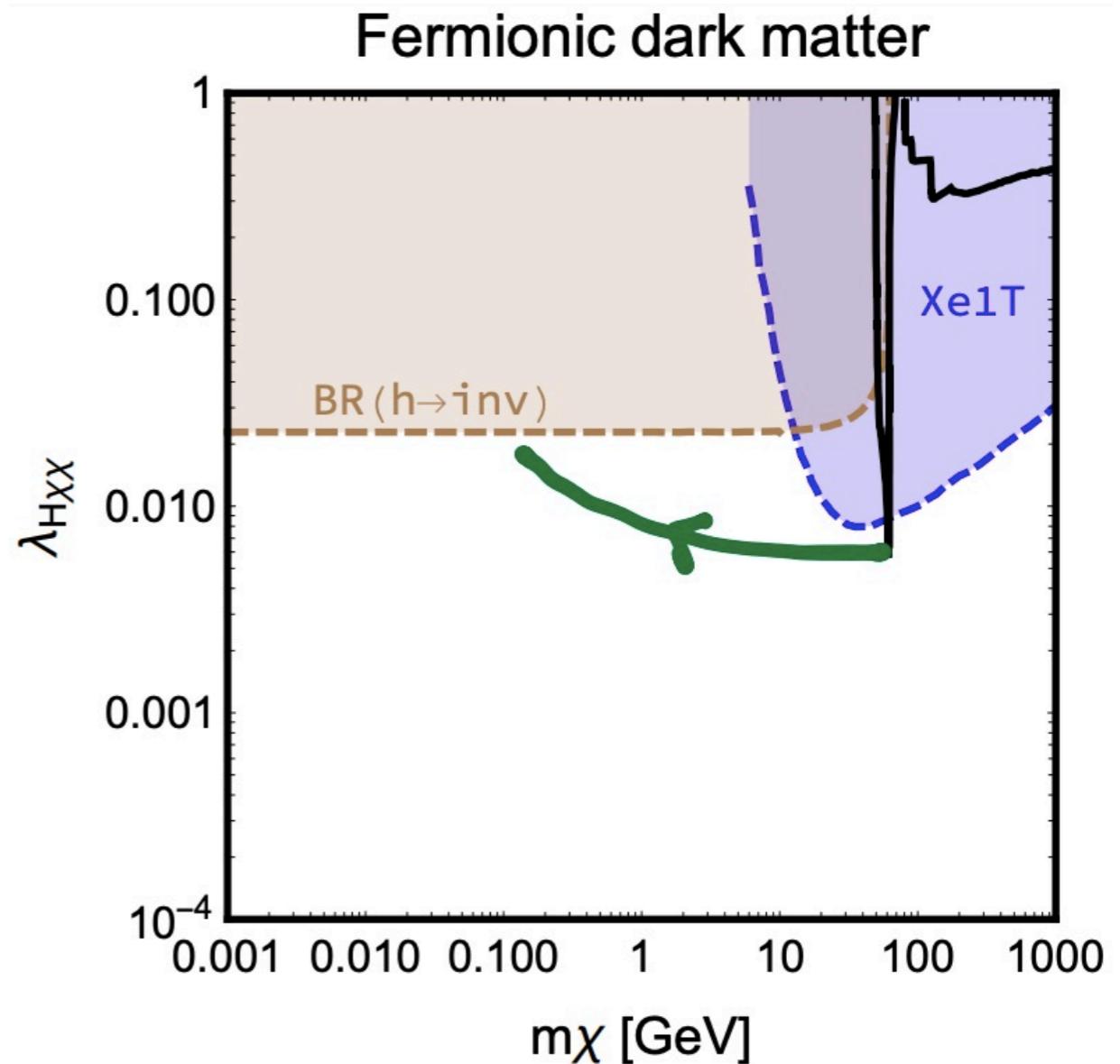
# Opening the Higgs portal

- ❖ Is there some way to increase the parameter space that benefits from resonant enhancement?



# Opening the Higgs portal

- ❖ Is there some way to increase the parameter space that benefits from resonant enhancement?
- ❖ Dark matter that remembers the resonance:  
 $\Rightarrow m_\chi(T)$
- ❖ Temperature-dependent mass



Baker, Kopp, arXiv:1608.07578

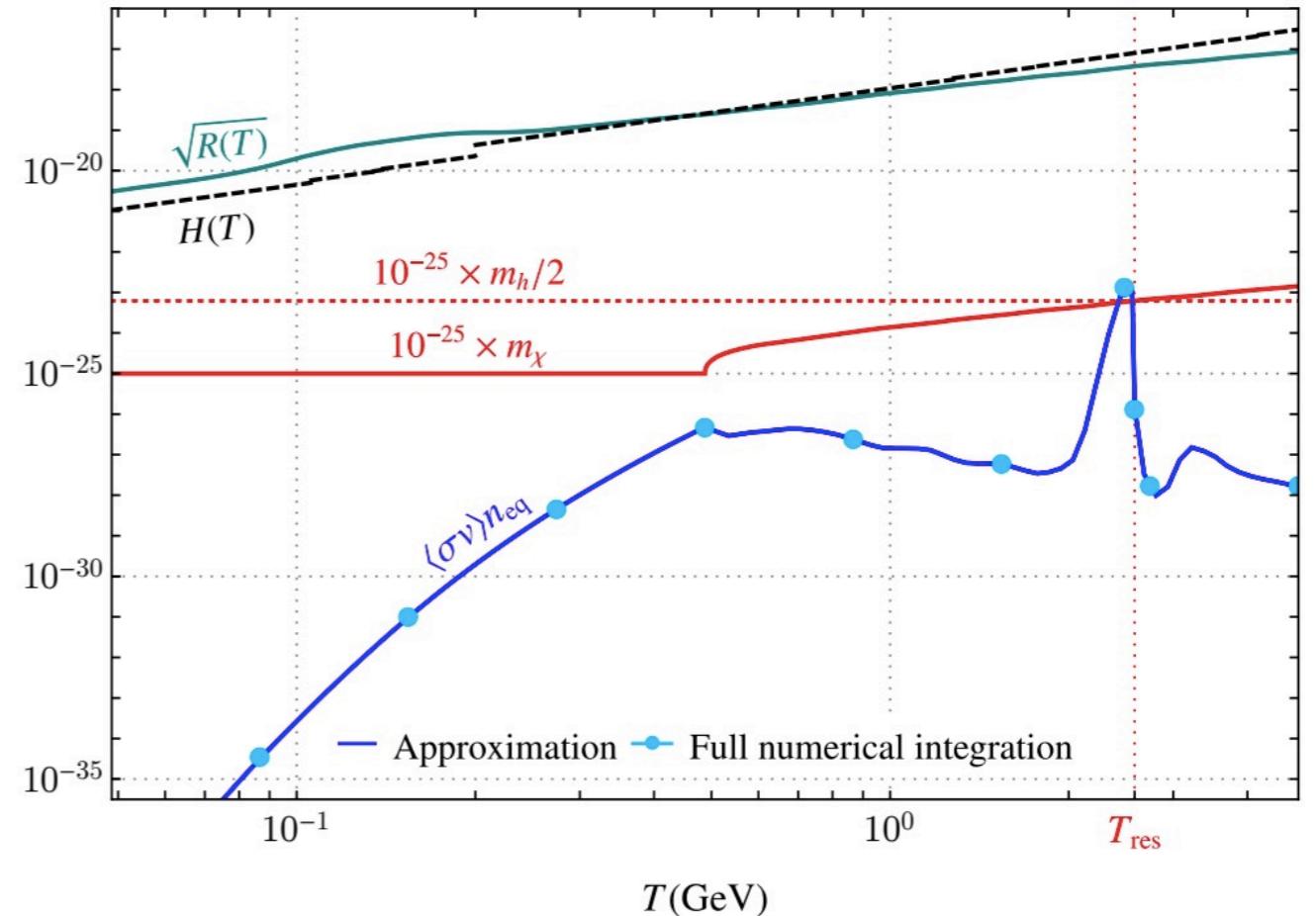
Cohen, Morrissey, Piece, arXiv:0808.3994

Heurtier, Partouche,  
arXiv:1912.02828

# Resonance scanning

- ❖ Higgs portal dark matter whose mass *decreases* with decreasing temperature
- ❖ The dark matter mass generically scans through the resonance at some point in its history
- ❖ Dark matter obtains its final light mass *after* losing contact with the thermal bath

(all quantities plotted are in GeV)



Croon, Elor, RH, Murayama, White  
arXiv:2012.152

# Morphing the dark matter mass

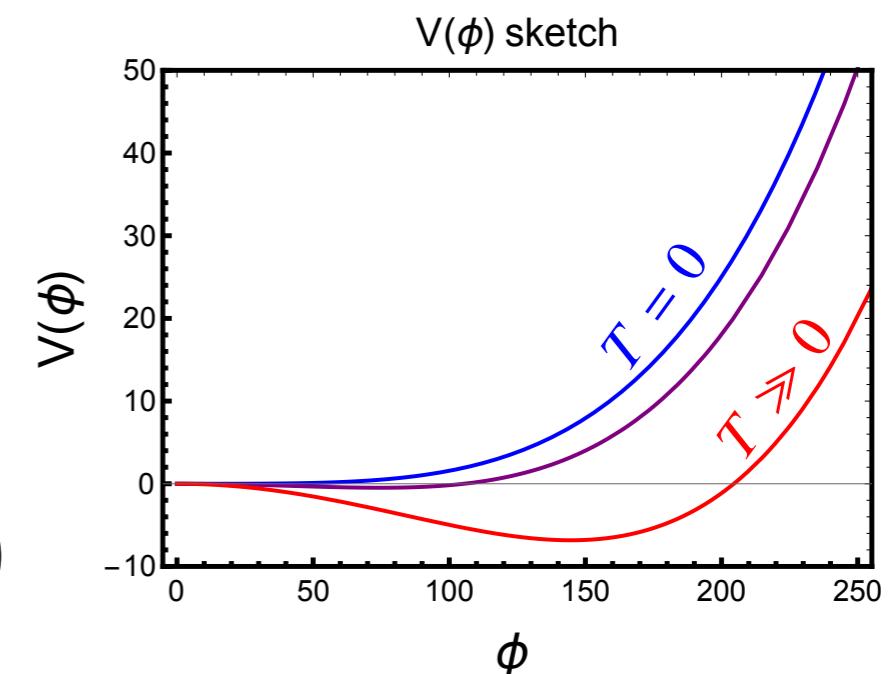
- ❖ Dirac fermion dark matter with typical Higgs portal interactions

$$V \ni \frac{1}{2}m_\chi\bar{\chi}\chi + \frac{1}{2}\lambda_{h\chi}h\bar{\chi}\chi + iy_{\phi\chi}\phi\bar{\chi}\gamma_5\chi$$

- ❖ The dark matter couples to a pseudoscalar  $\phi$  called the *morphon*
- ❖ The morphon then *morphs* the dark matter mass

$$m_\chi^2(T) = [m_{\chi,0} + \lambda_{h\chi}v_h]^2 + y_\phi^2v_\phi^2(T)$$

$$v_\phi(T) > v_\phi(T=0)$$



# Ricci morphon

- ❖ The morphon couples to the Ricci scalar

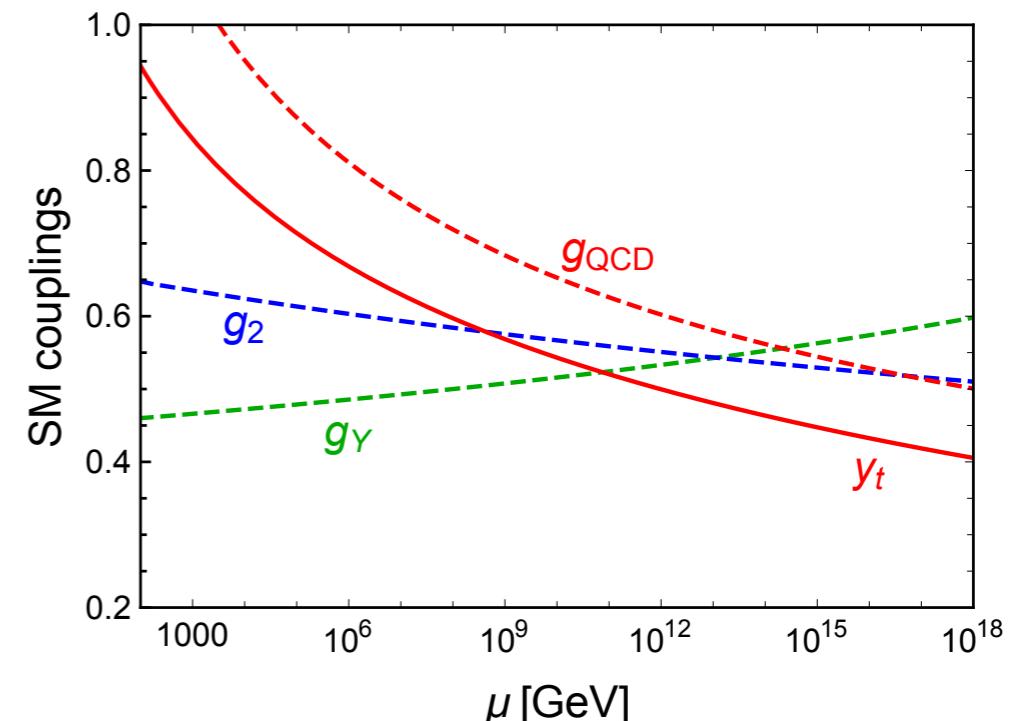
$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\xi R\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_\phi\phi^4$$

Sonego, Faraoni (1993)  
Davoudiasl, Kitano, Krabs, Murayama,  
Steinhardt, hep-ph/0403019  
Opferkuch, Schwaller, Stepanek,  
arXiv:1905.06823

- ❖ For constant  $w$ ,  $R = -3(1 - 3w)H^2$ ,  $w \approx 1/3$

- ❖ However,  $R = -8\pi G T_\mu^\mu$   
and the trace anomaly gives:

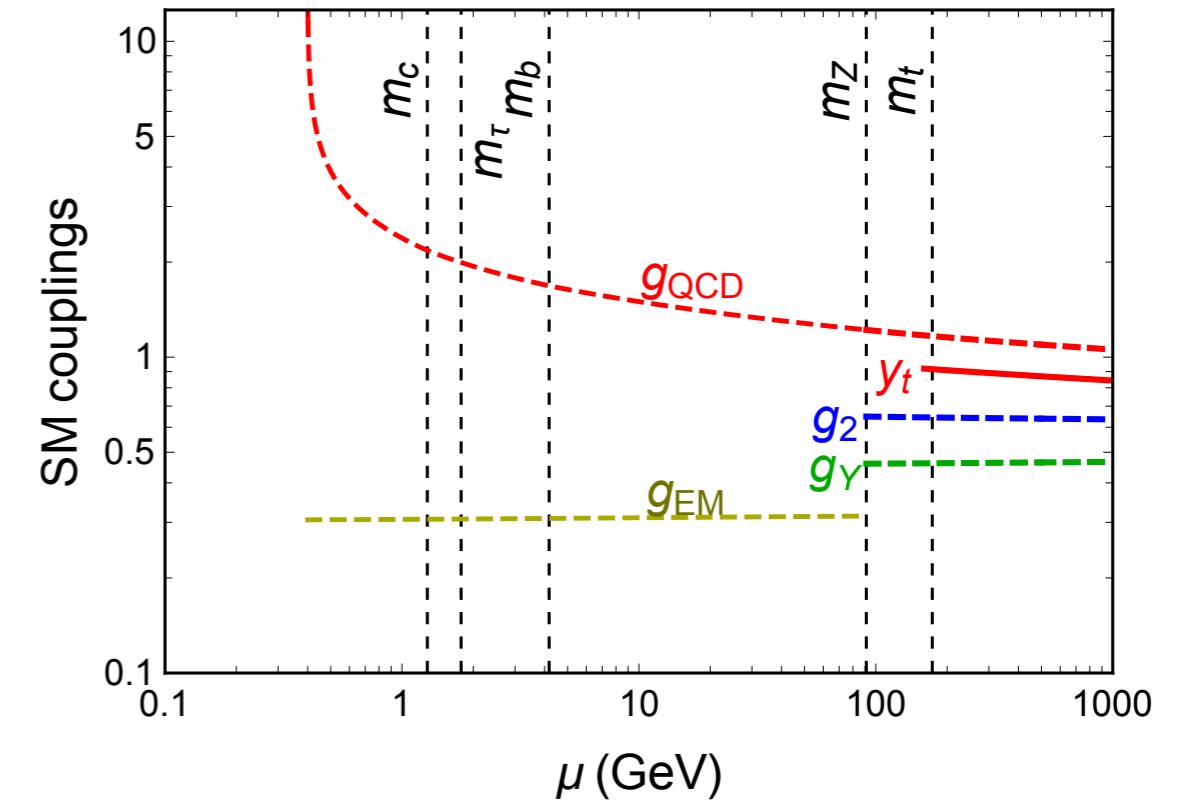
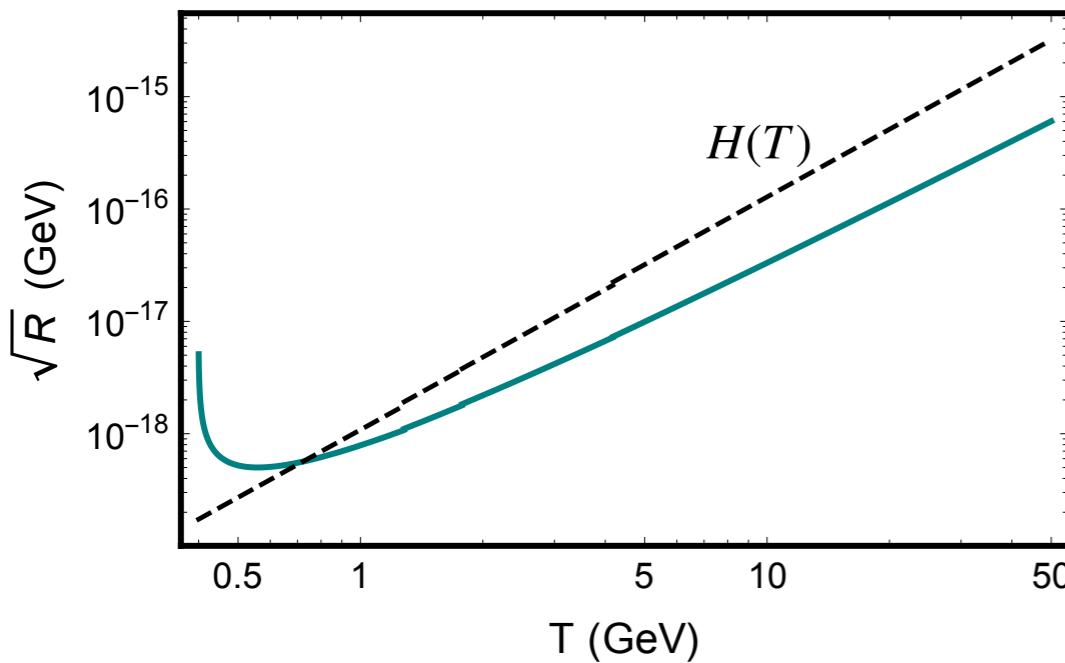
$T_\mu^\mu \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow$  scale invariance



# Sources of breaking scale invariance

In the region of interest for DM morphing:

- ❖ Running couplings
- ❖ QCD confinement
- ❖ Mass thresholds/decoupling



- ❖ We can estimate  $R$  based on the perturbative running of the couplings

Davoudiasl, Kitano, Kribs, Murayama, Steinhardt, hep-ph/0403019

# Ricci evolution

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\xi R\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_\phi\phi^4$$

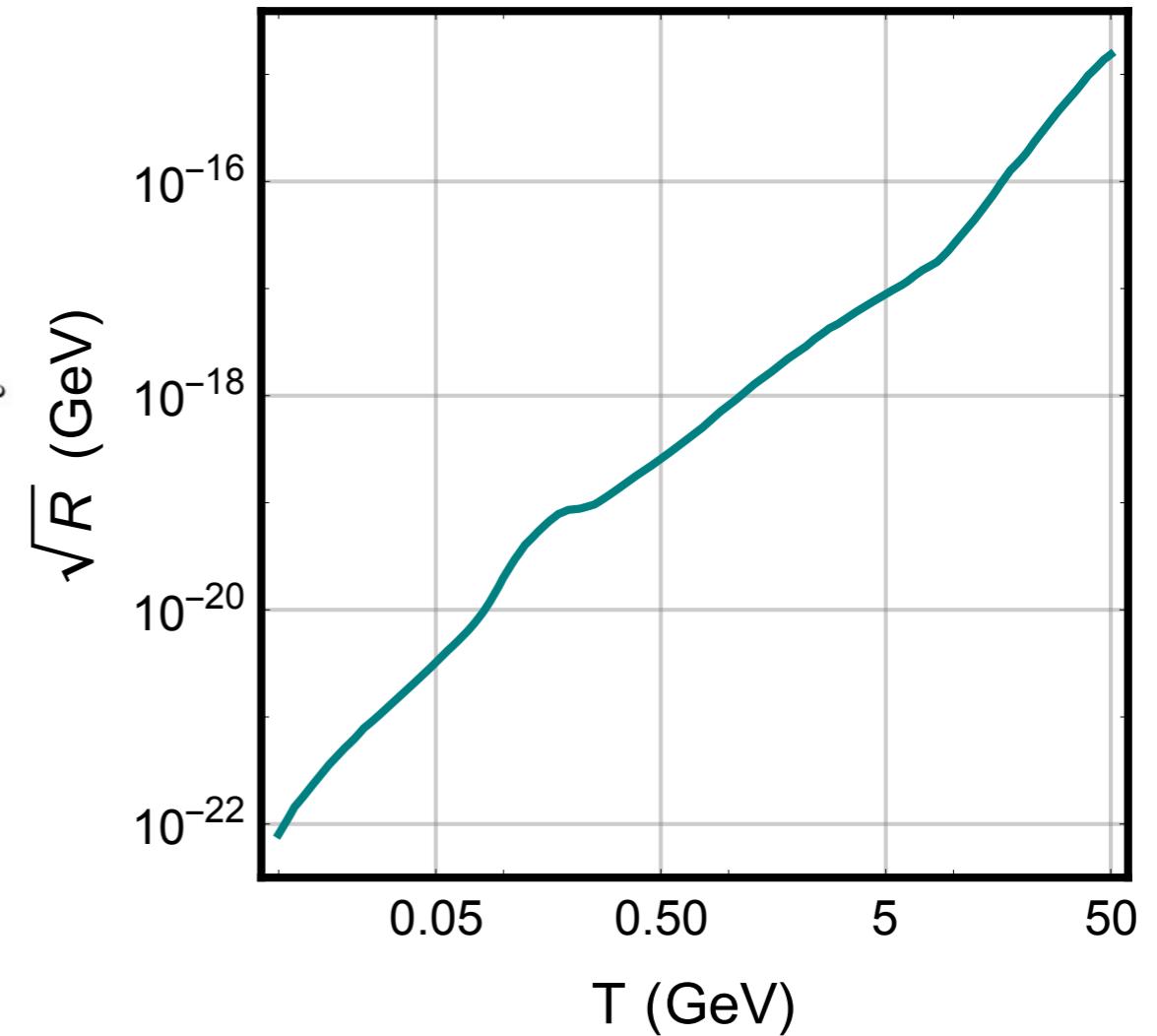
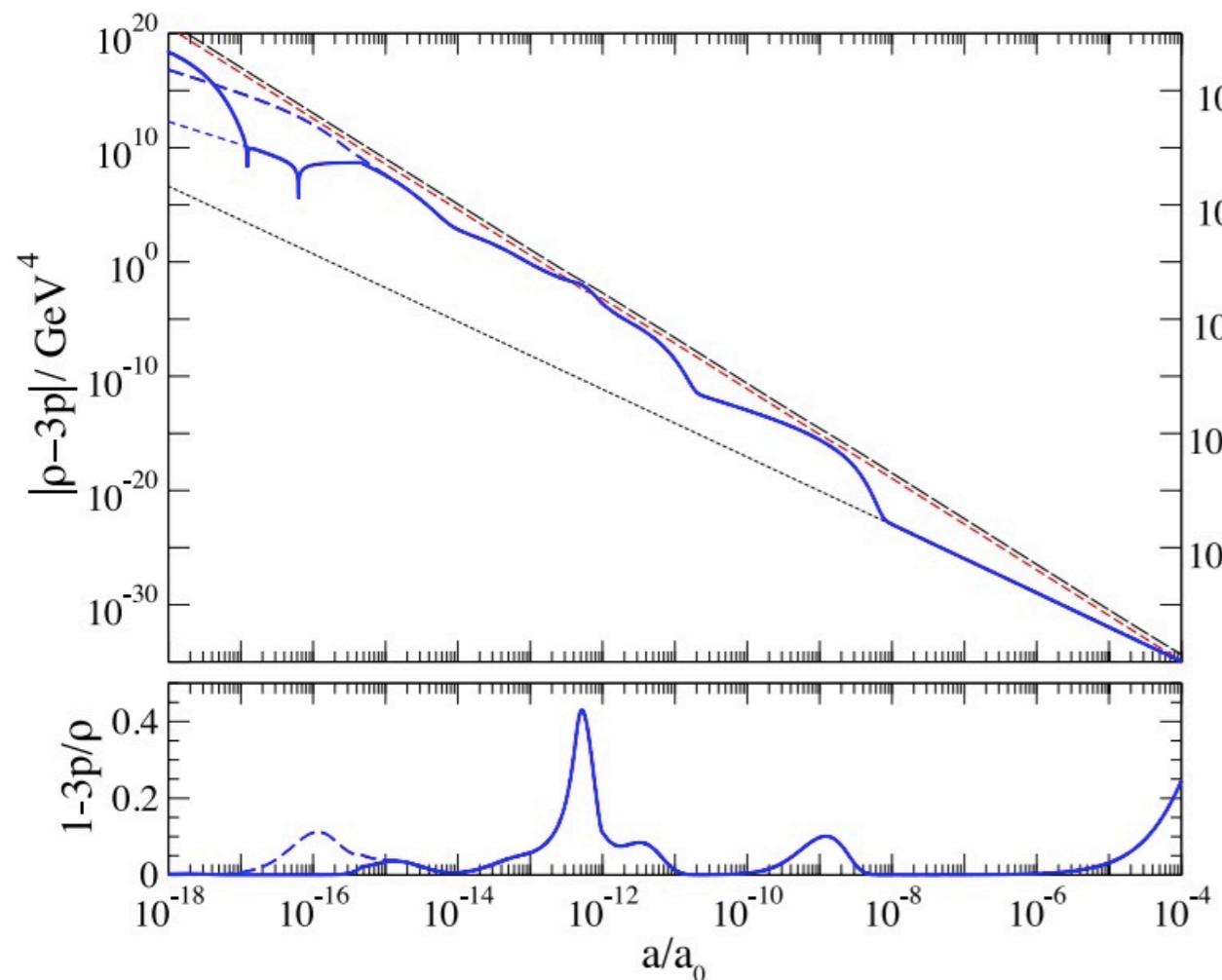


Figure from Caldwell, Gubser, arXiv:1302.1201

# Ricci evolution

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\xi R\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_\phi\phi^4$$

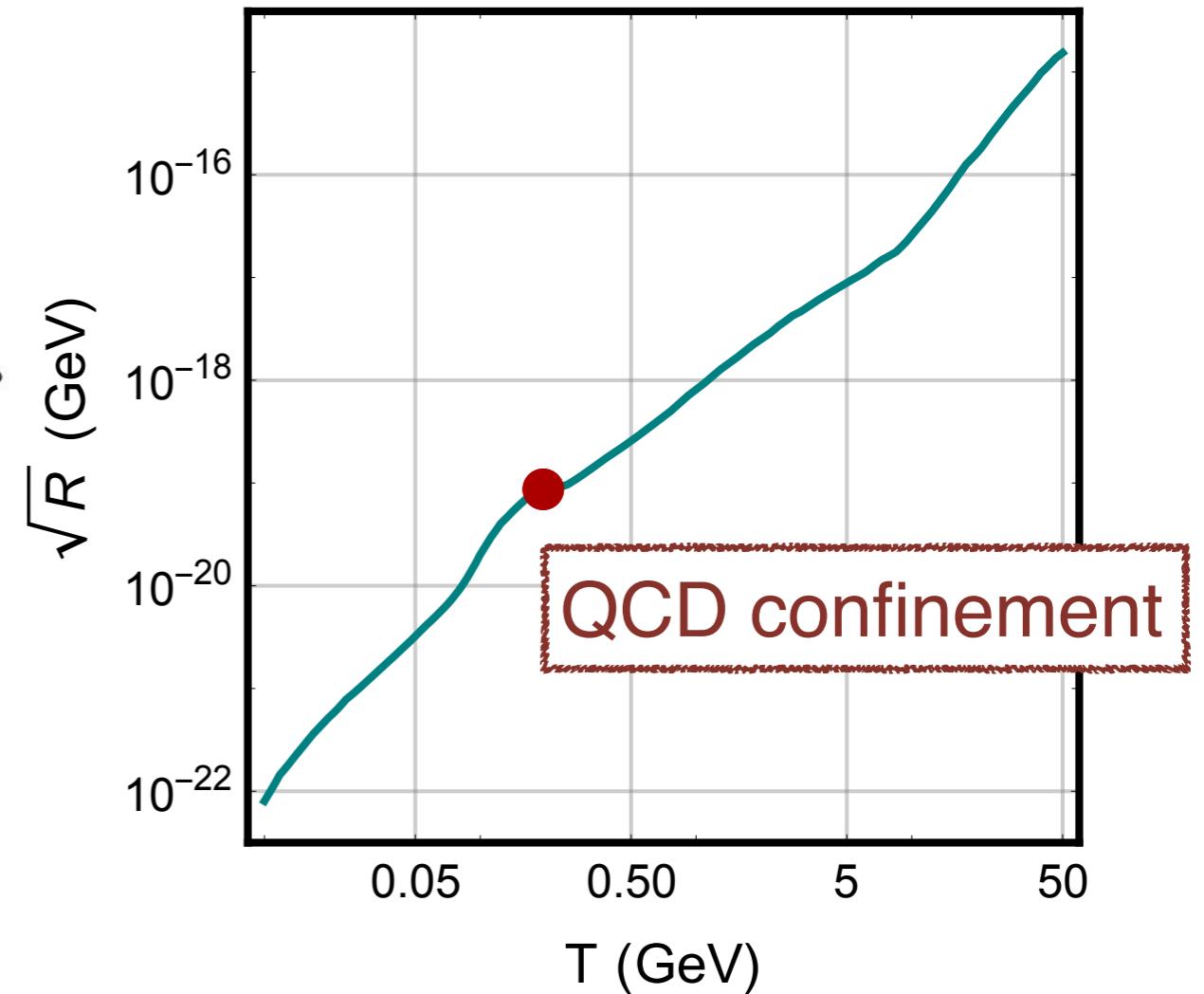
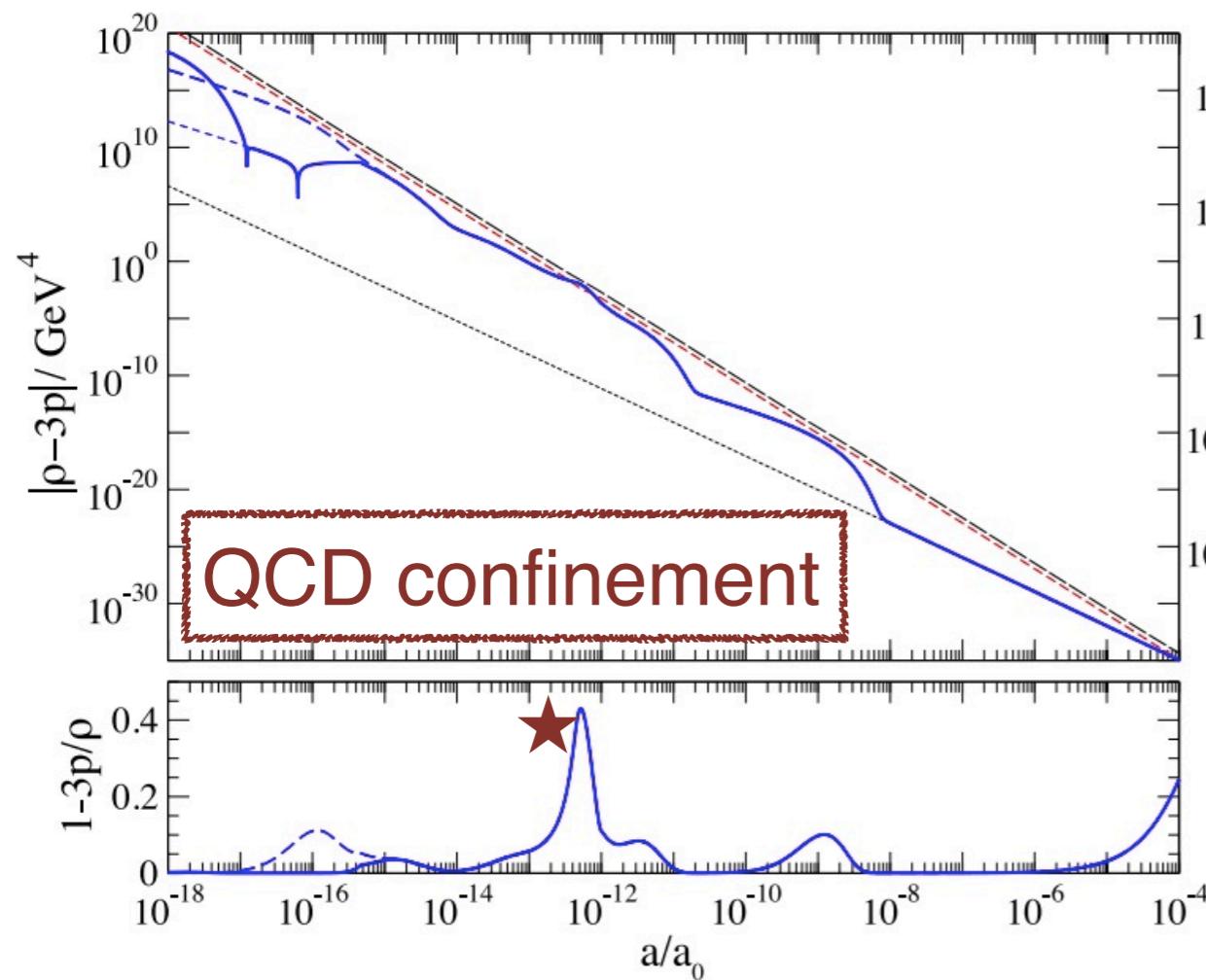
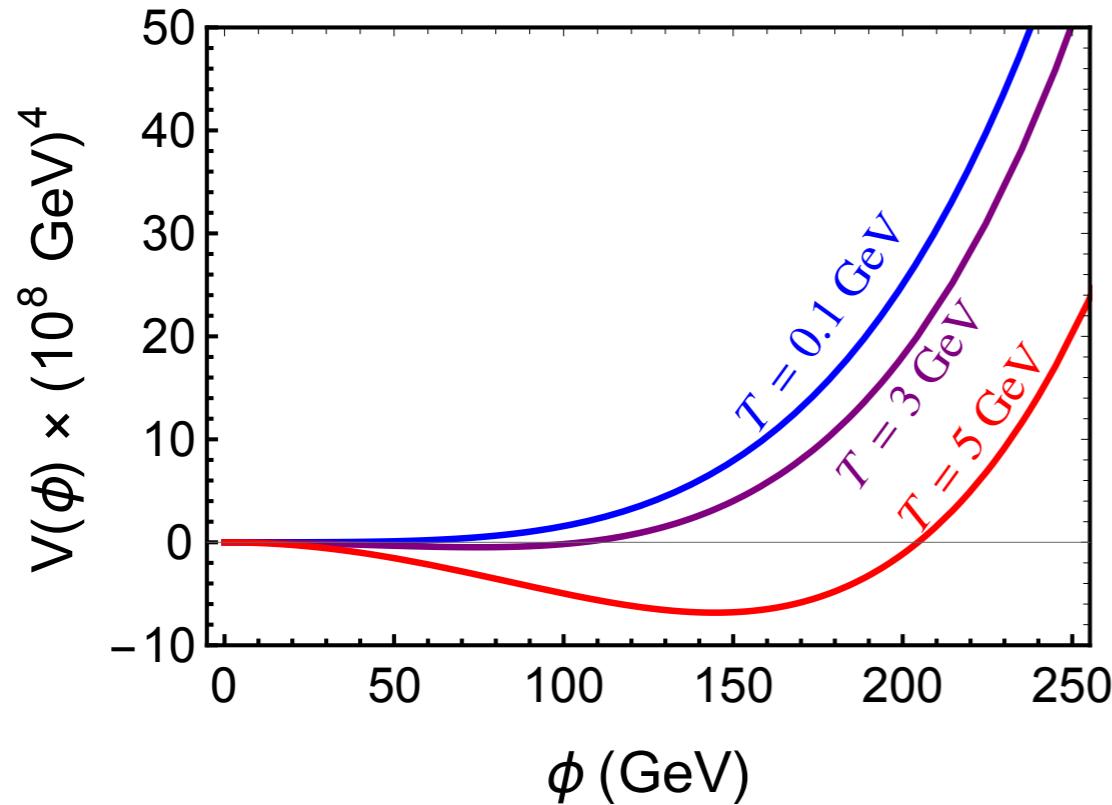


Figure from Caldwell, Gubser, arXiv:1302.1201

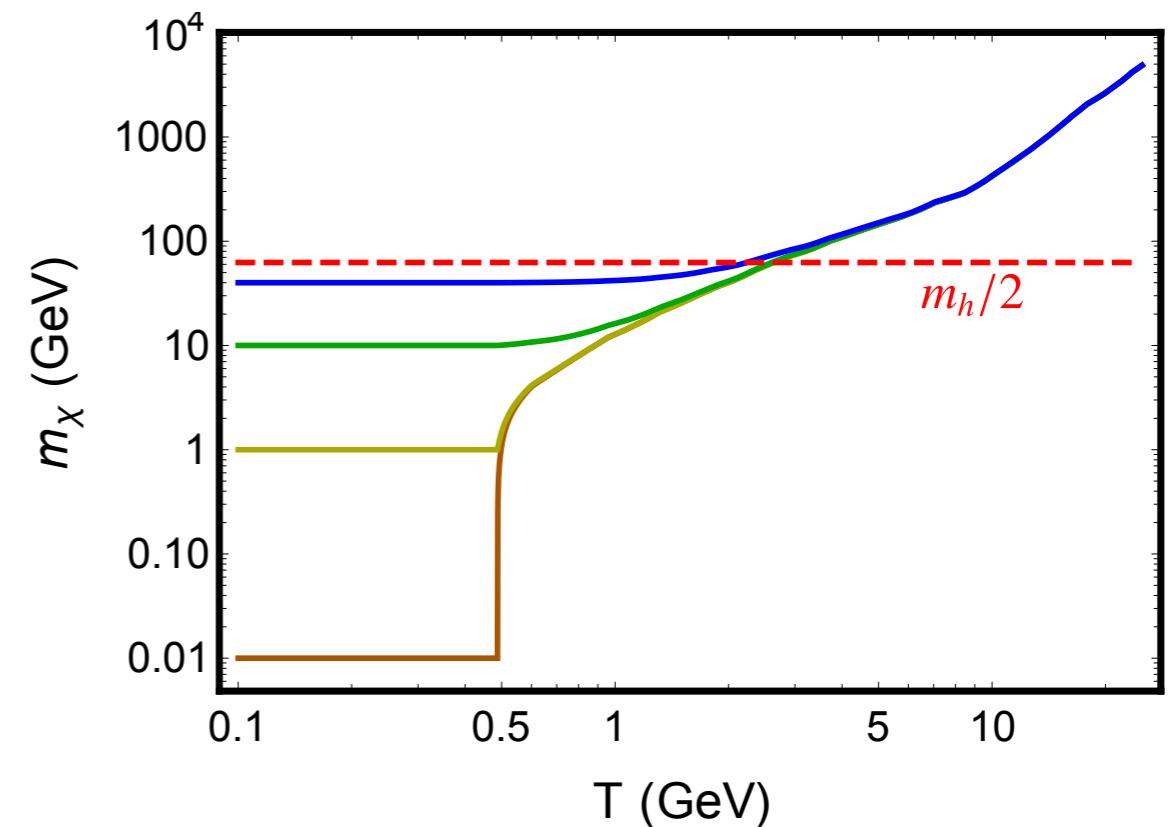
# Ricci morphon VEV

- ❖ At high temperatures the morphon develops a nonzero VEV:

$$v_\phi(T) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\lambda_\phi} (\xi R - m_\phi^2)} & \xi R > m_\phi^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



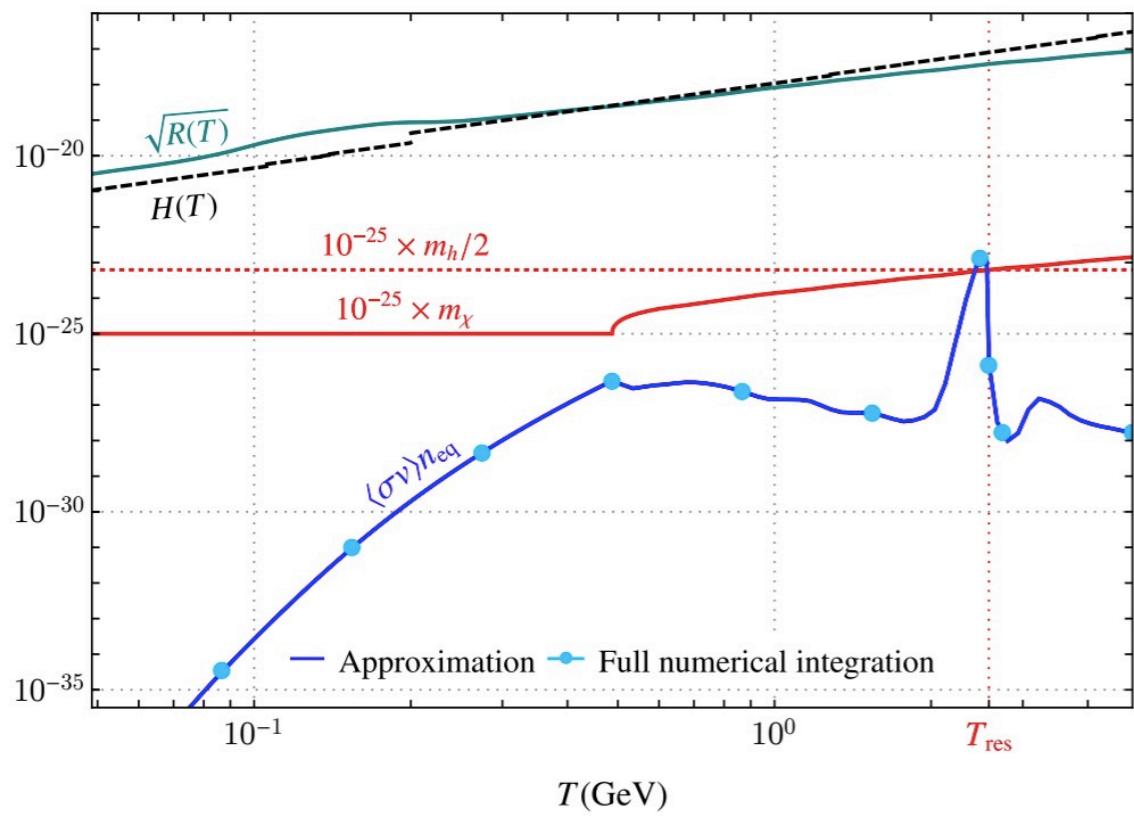
$$m_\chi(T) = m_{\chi,f} + y_\phi v_\phi(T)$$



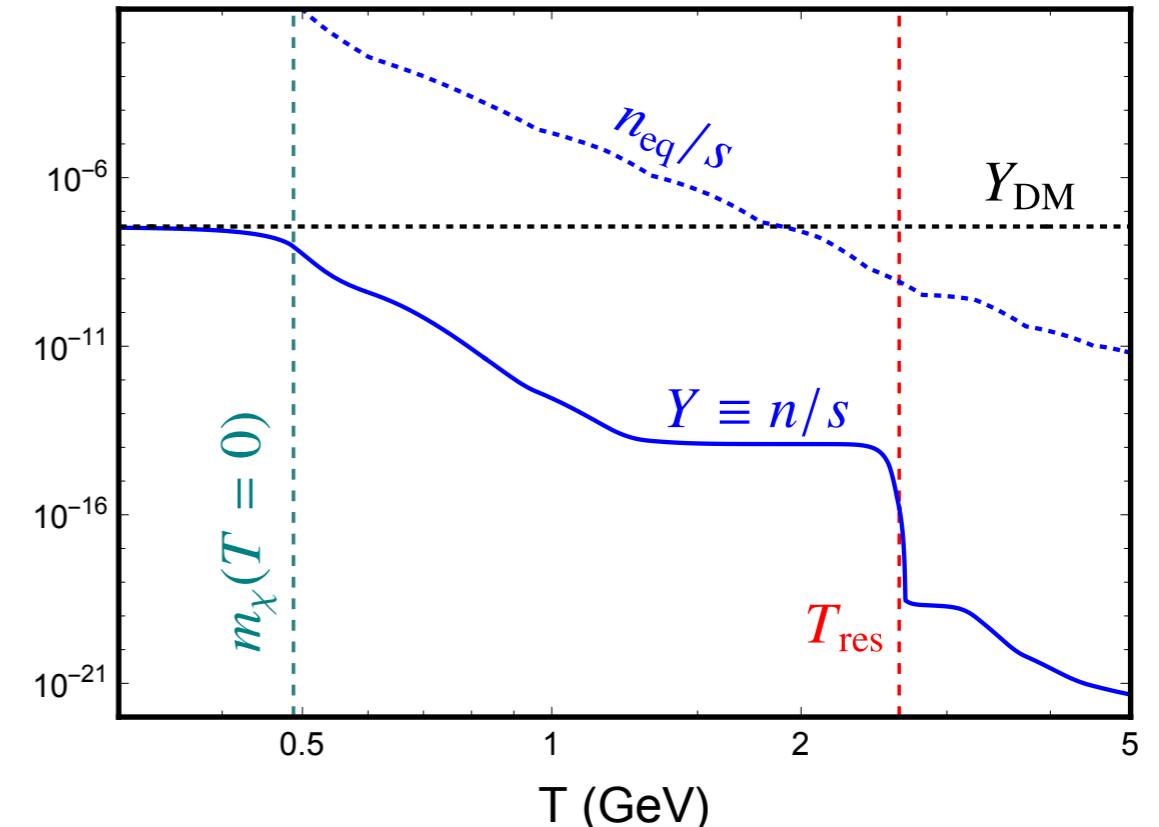
# Scanning through the resonance

$$m_{\chi,f} = 1 \text{ GeV}$$

(all quantities plotted are in GeV)

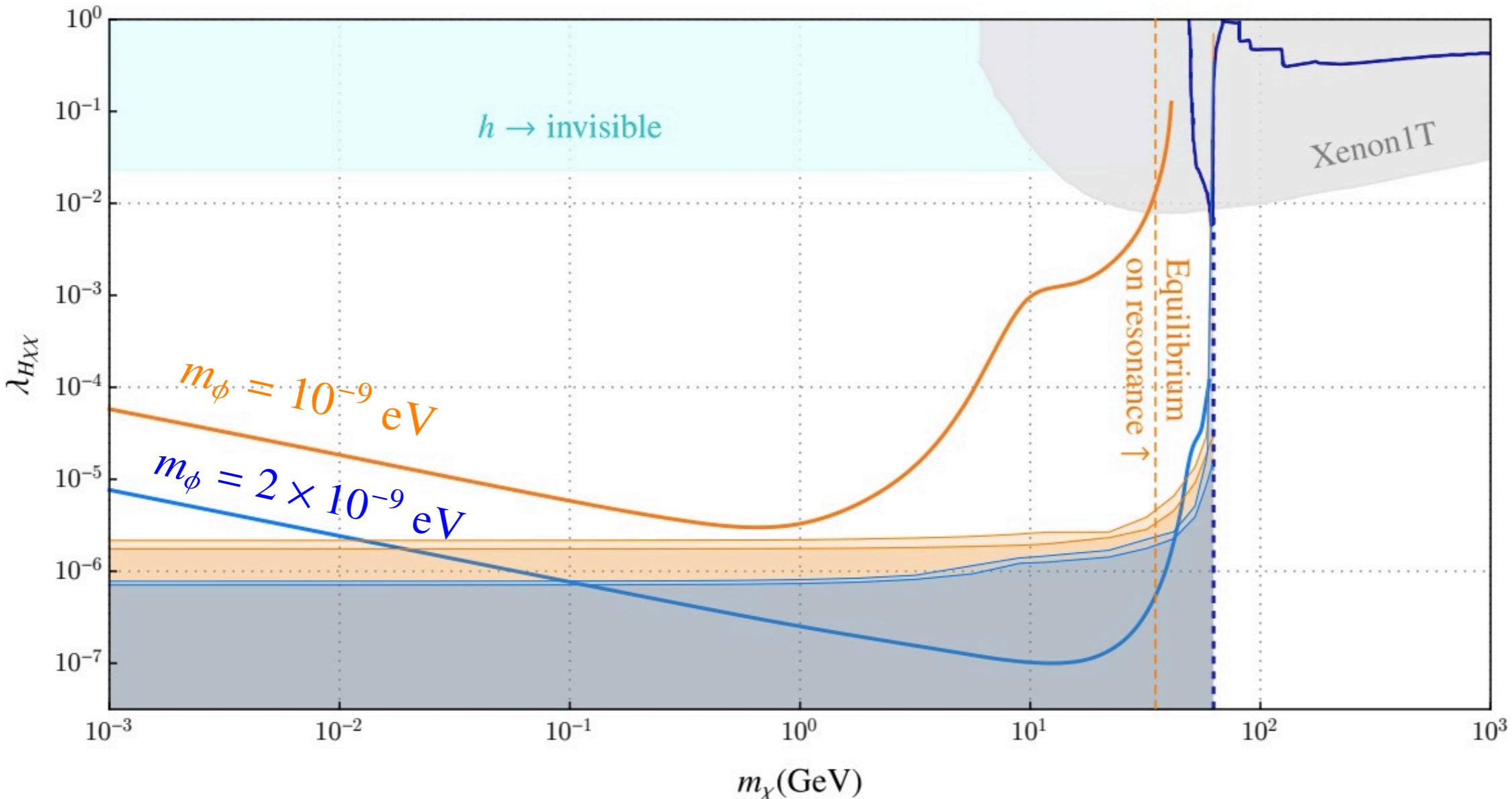


$$m_{\chi,f} = 10 \text{ MeV}$$



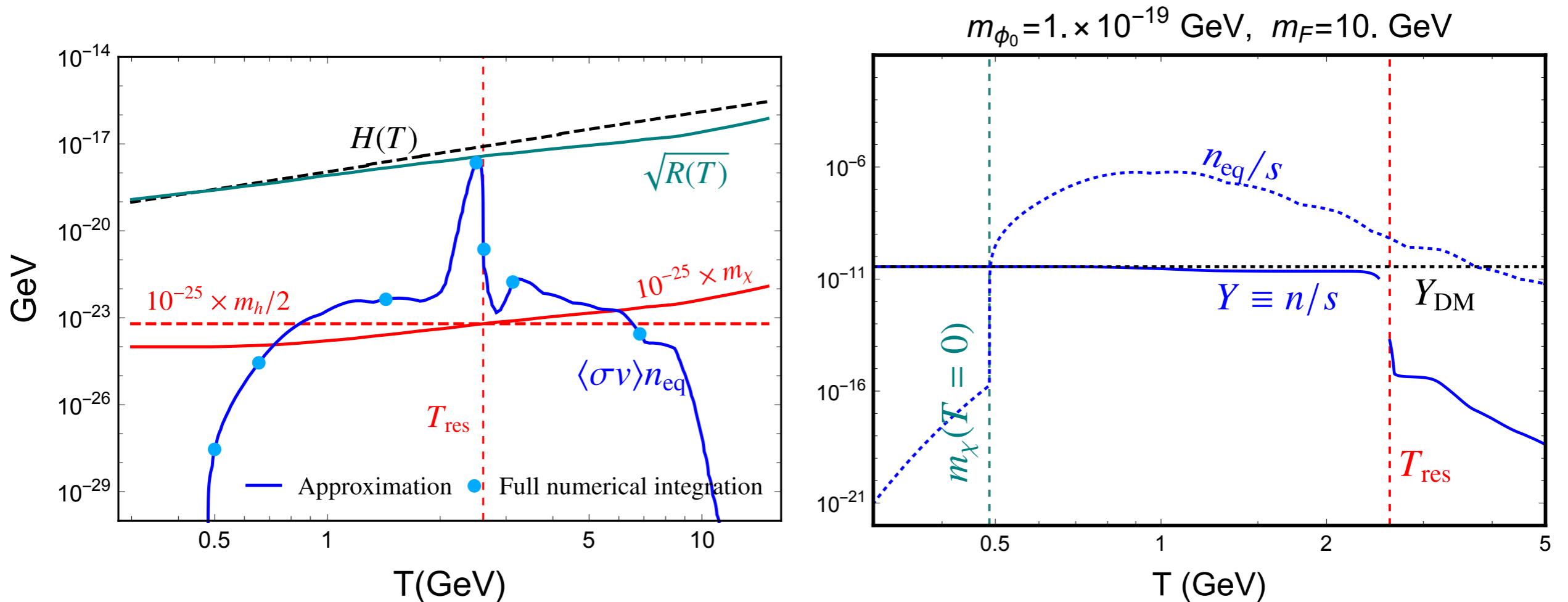
- ❖ Relic abundance mostly controlled by  $n_{\text{eq}}(T)$

# Relic abundance curve



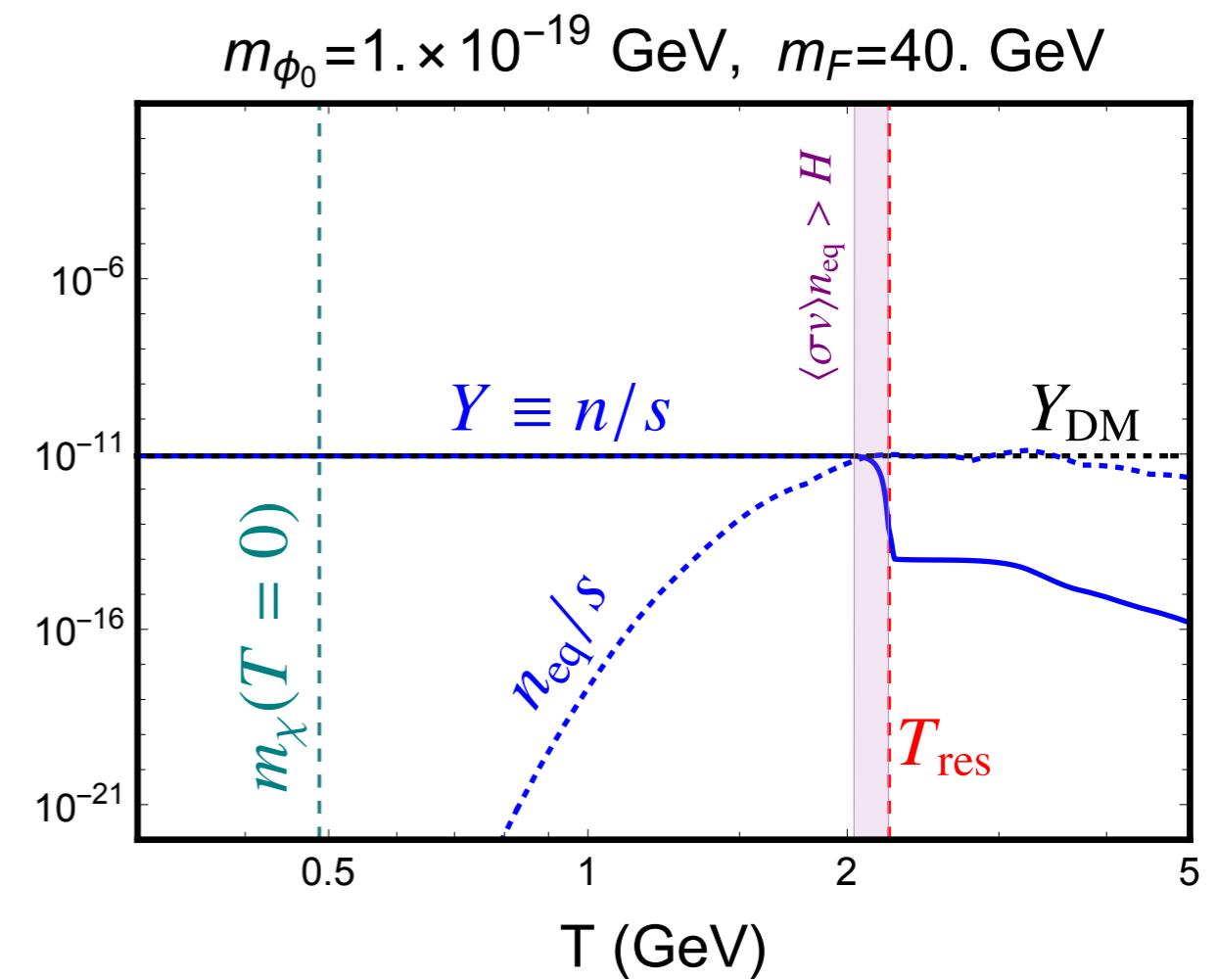
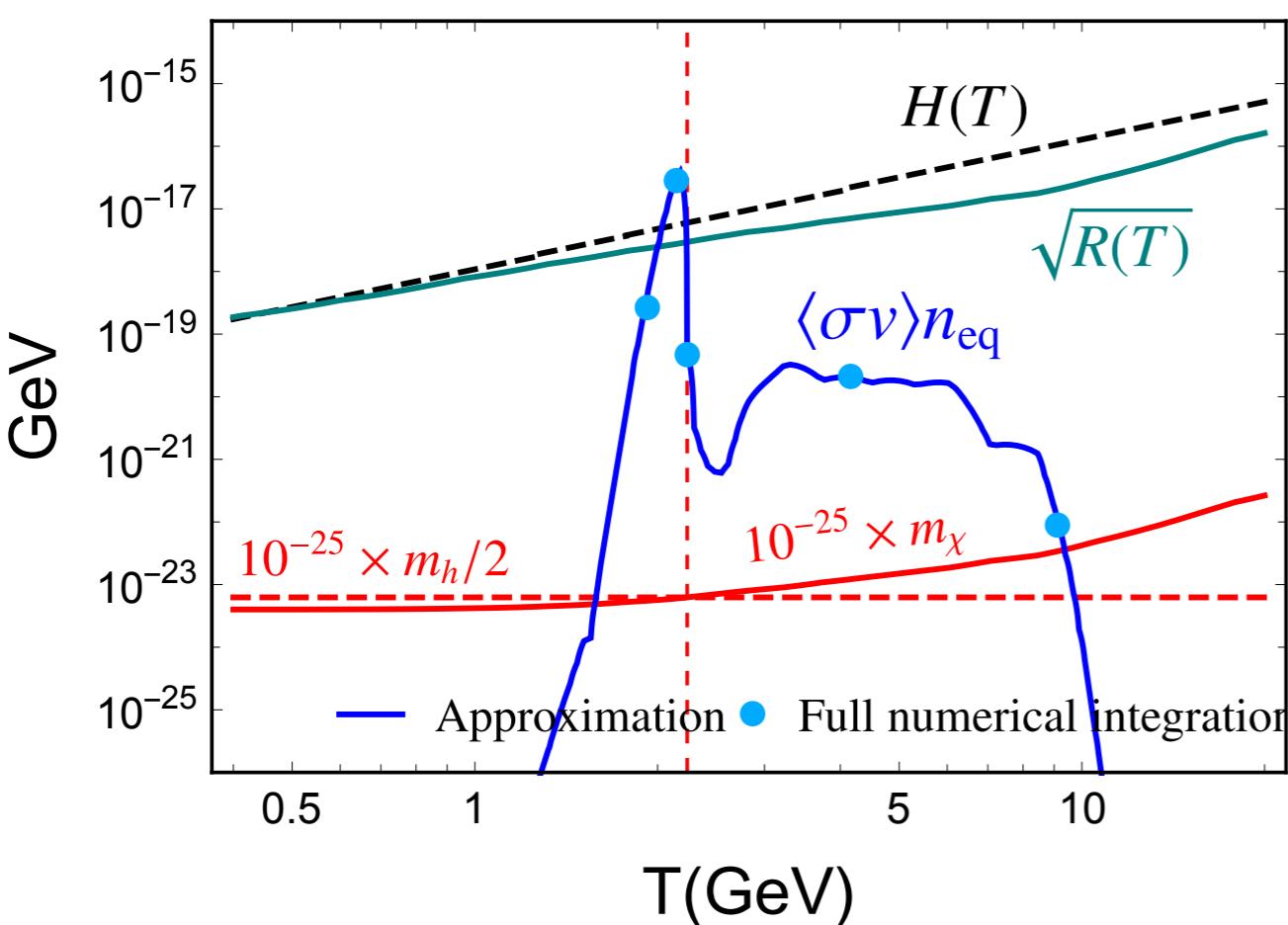
- ❖ Shaded regions violate :  $\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > H$  (Top)  $\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > \frac{\dot{m}}{m}$  (Bottom)

# Benchmark $m_{\chi,f} = 10$ GeV



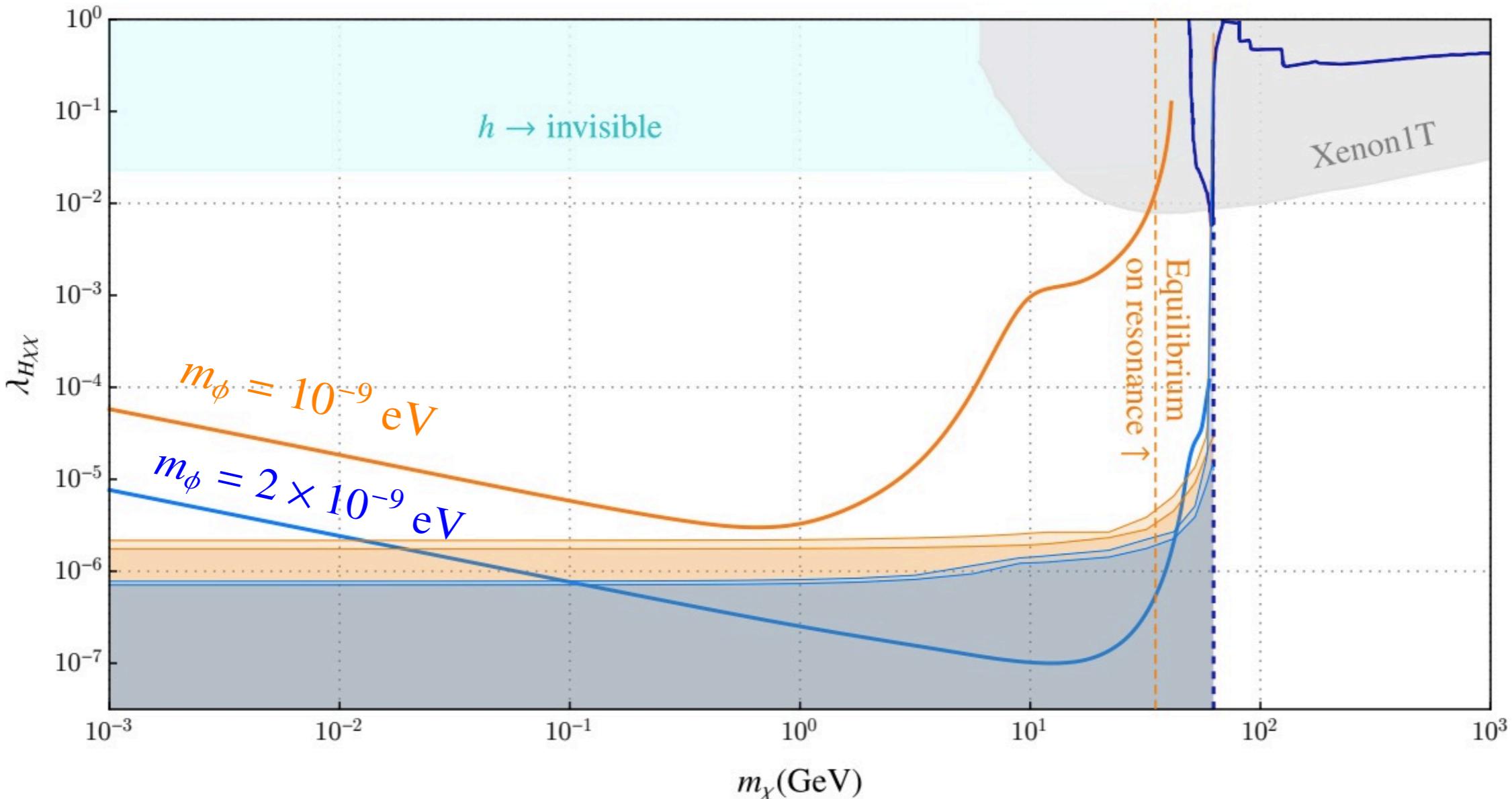
- ❖ Relic abundance mostly controlled by the resonance

# Benchmark $m_{\chi,f} = 40$ GeV



- ❖ An example of thermal production, DM enters equilibrium on resonance

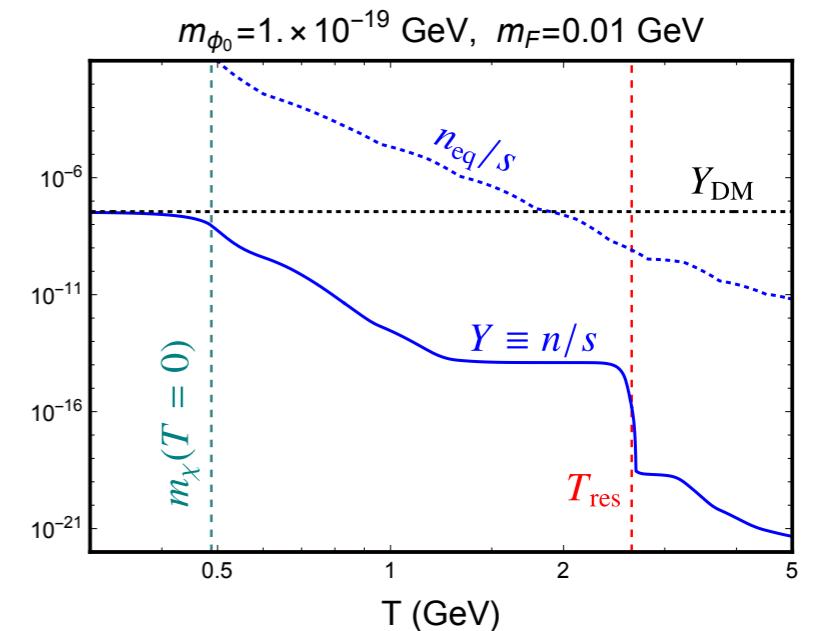
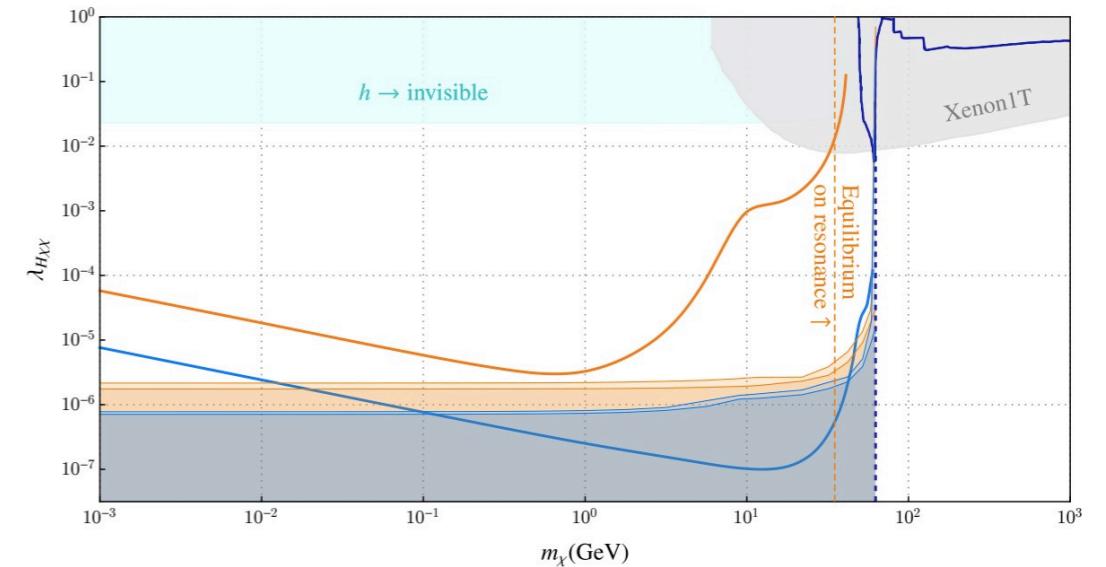
# Relic abundance curve



- ❖ Shaded regions violate :  $\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > H$  (Top)  $\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > \frac{\dot{m}}{m}$  (Bottom)

# Summary

- ❖ New mechanism for light dark matter production
- ❖ The dark matter mass decreased with temperature, scanning through the Higgs resonance  $2m_\chi \approx m_h$
- ❖ Our production mechanism gives much smaller portal couplings than the standard freeze-out scenario due to both:
  - ❖ History of the resonant enhancement
  - ❖ Behavior of  $n_{eq}(T)$  during the PT

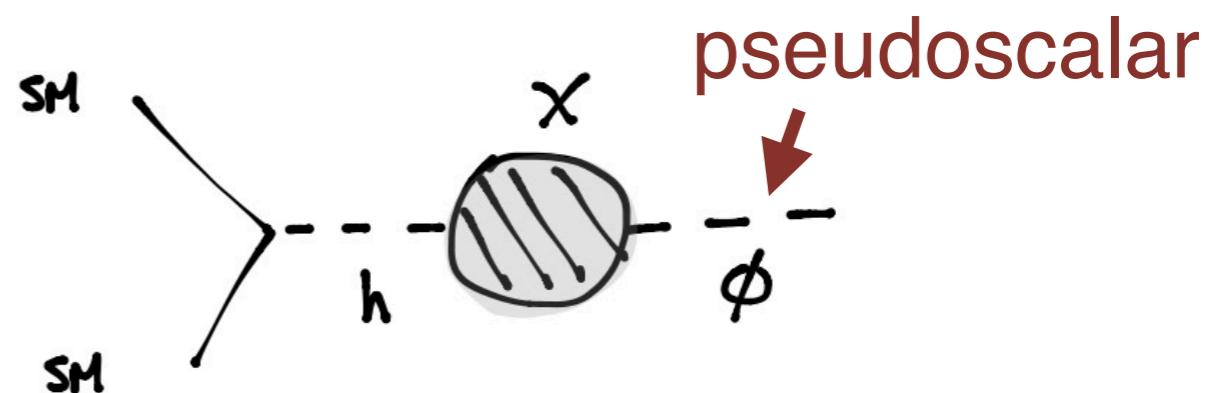
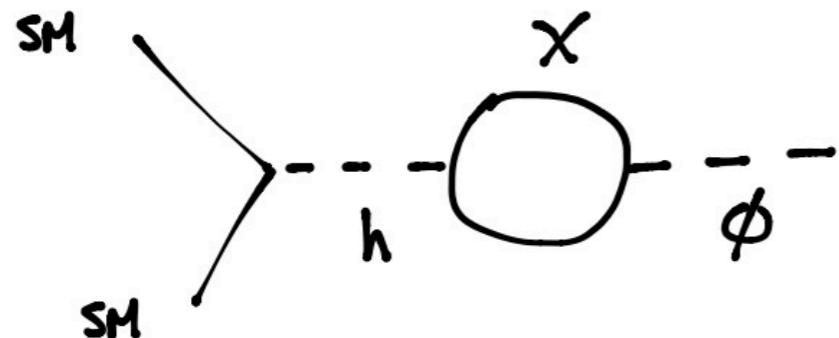


*Thank you!*

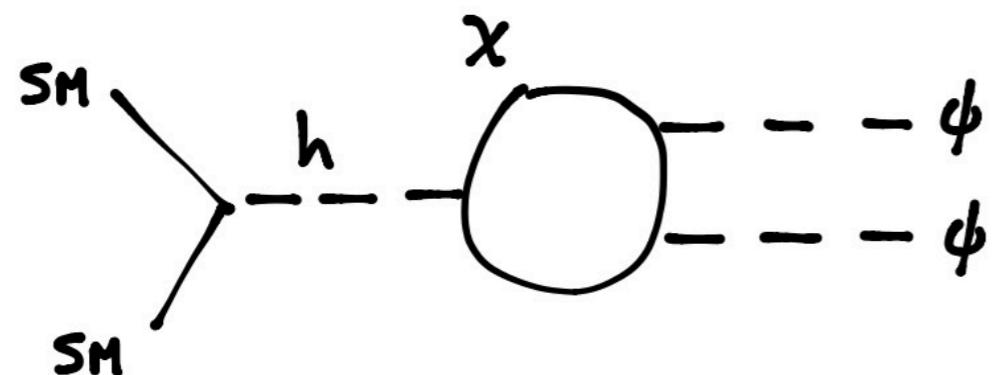
# Back-up Slides

# Light morphon constraints

- ❖ Fifth force constraints:  $\phi$ - $h$  mixing forbidden



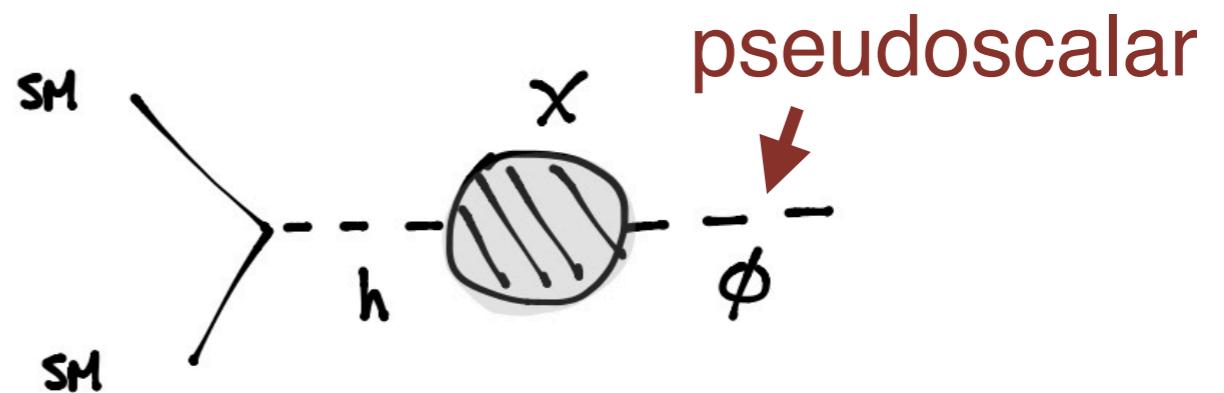
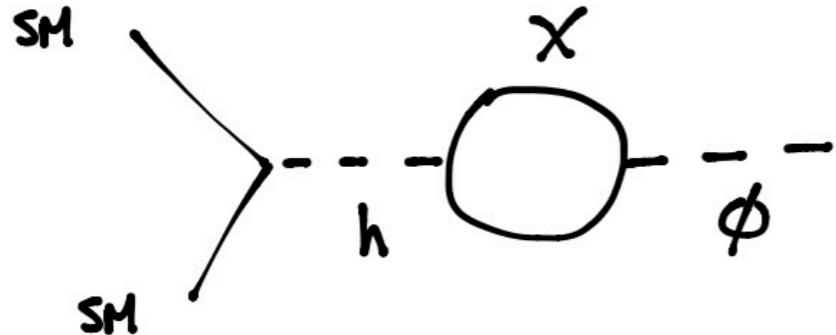
- ❖ Morphon pair production



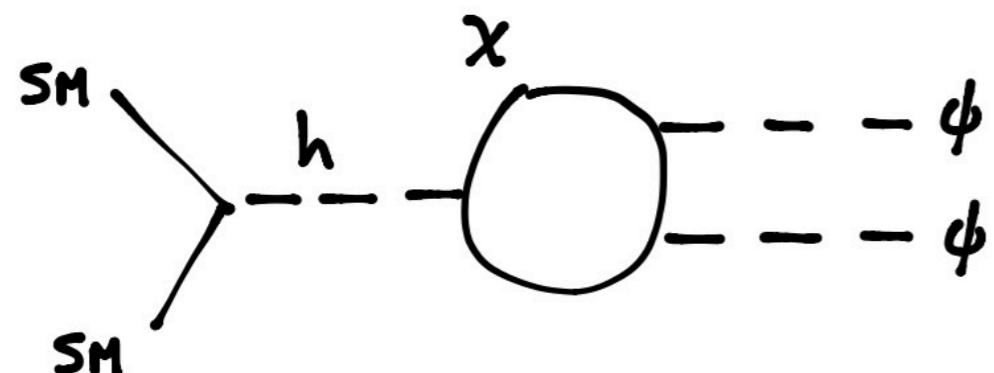
$$\Gamma \sim \lambda_{h\chi}^2 y_{\phi\chi}^4 y_f^2 \left( \frac{m_\chi}{m_h^2} \right)^2 \times n_{eq,f}$$

# Light morphon constraints

- ❖ Fifth force constraints:  $\phi$ - $h$  mixing forbidden



- ❖ Morphon pair production  $T_{\text{dec}} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$



$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{4}{7} \left( \frac{11}{4} \right)^{4/3} \left( \frac{g_*^s(T_{\text{CMB}})}{g_*^s(T_{\text{dec}})} \right)^{4/3}$$

Blennow, Fernandez-Martinez, Mena,  
Redondo, Serra, arXiv:1203.5803

# The Higgs portal WIMP Update

- ❖ WIMP that interacts with the SM through the Higgs portal

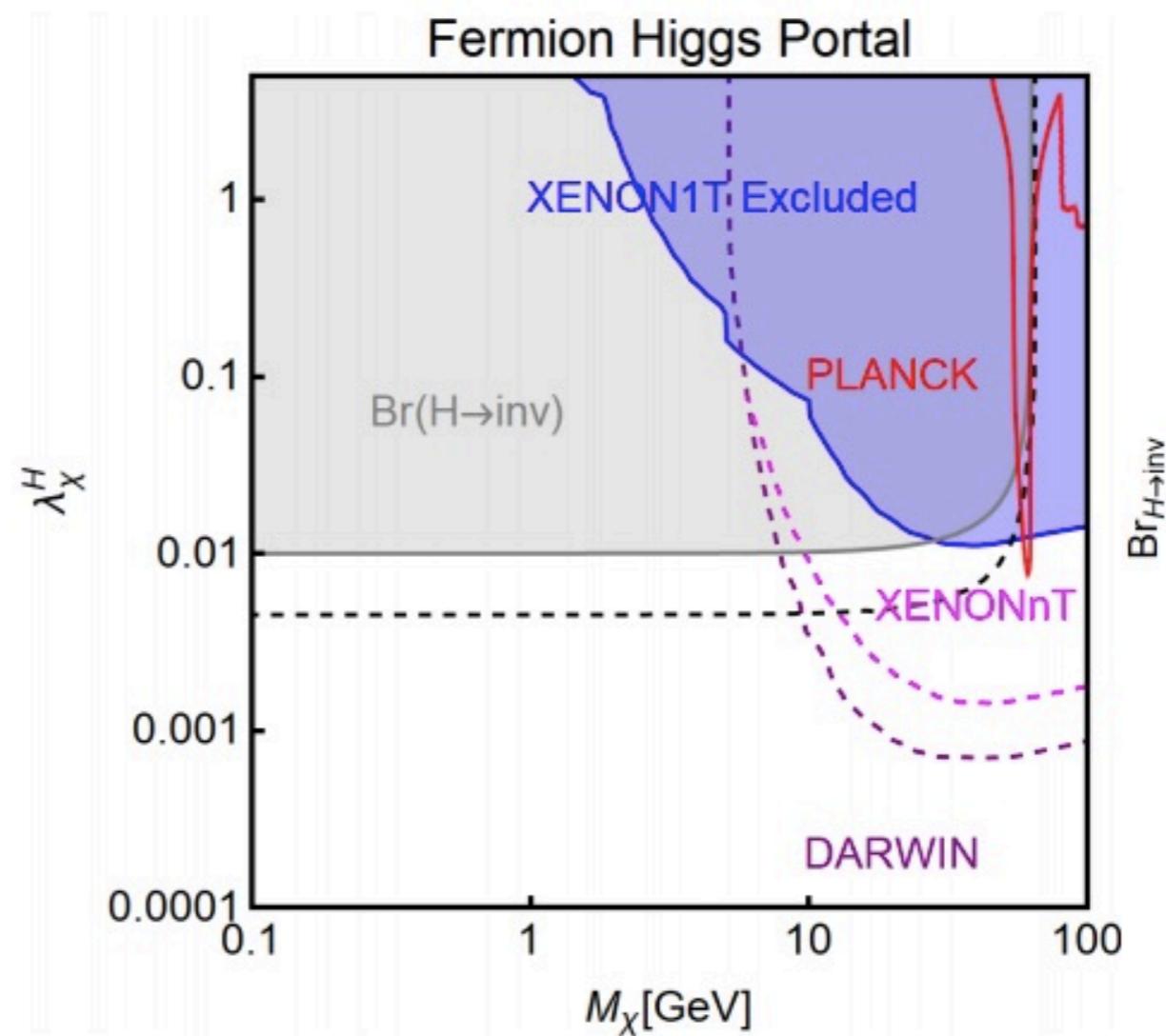
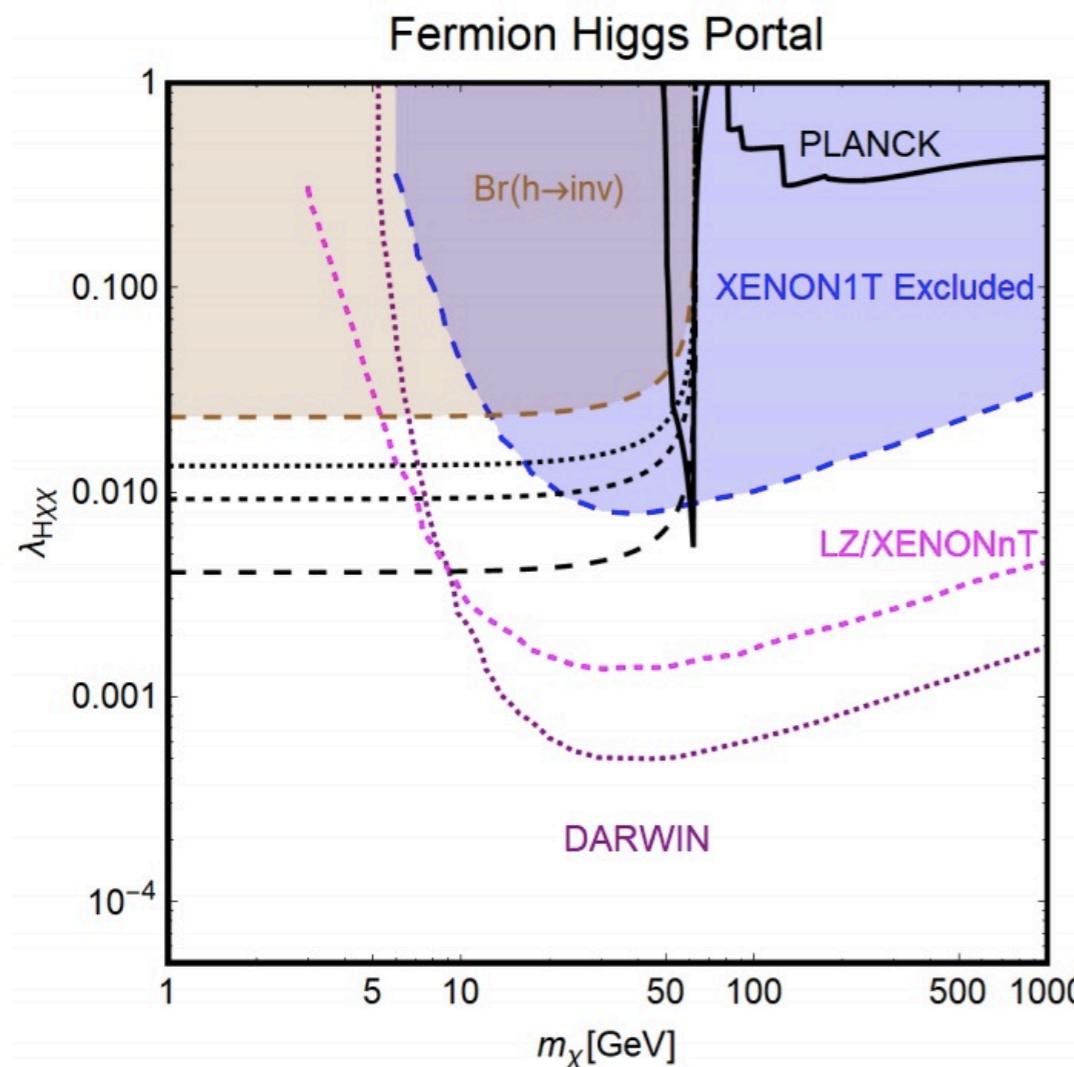


Figure from Arcadi, Djouadi, Raidal, arXiv:1903.03616

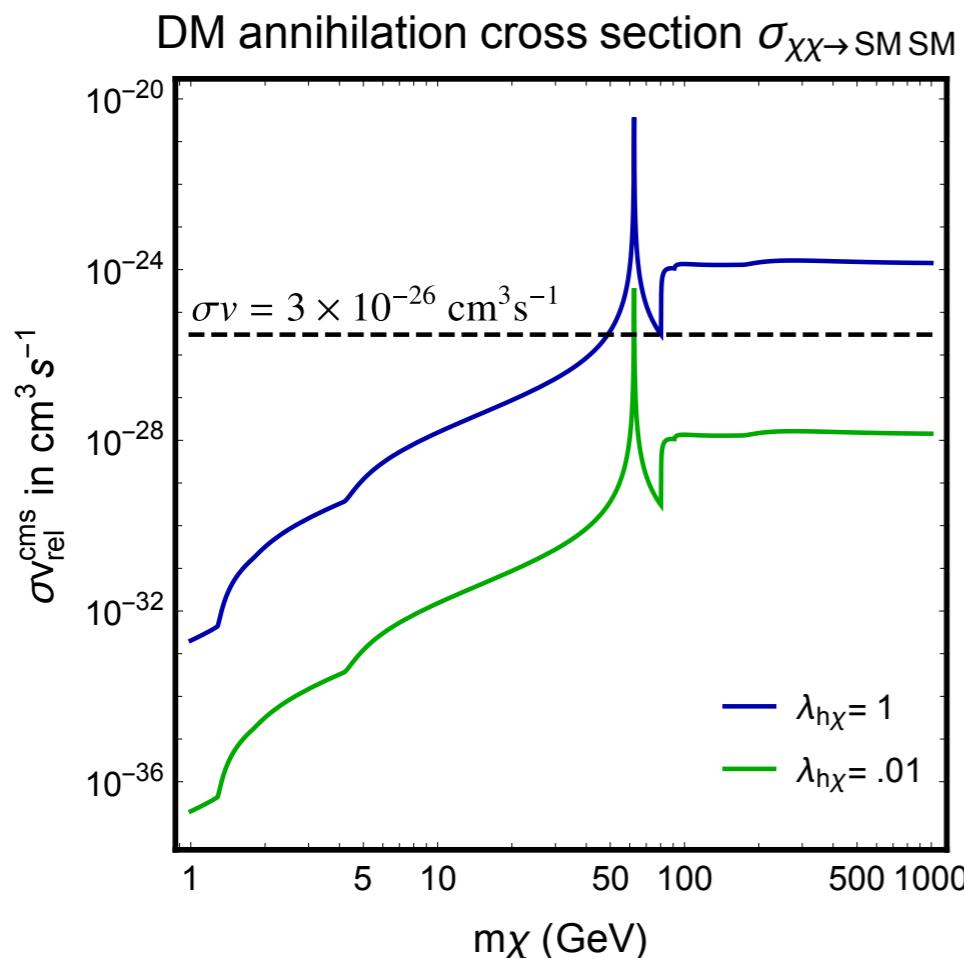
Figure from Arcadi, Djouadi, Kado, arXiv:2101.02507

# More Back-up Slides

# Dark matter production

- ❖ Standard way to calculate the evolution of dark matter number density:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = - (n^2 - n_{eq}^2) \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi} v \rangle$$



- ❖ Use the narrow width approximation to calculate  $\sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi}$  near the resonance peak

$$\sigma v_{\text{rel}}^{\text{cms}} = P_\chi \frac{2\lambda_{h\chi}^2 v_h^2}{\sqrt{s}} \frac{\Gamma_h (m_h^* = \sqrt{s})}{(s - m_h^2)^2 + m_h^2 \Gamma_h^2(m_h)}$$

$$P_\chi = \frac{s}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{4m_\chi^2}{s} \right)$$

Gambit Collaboration,  
arXiv:1808.10465

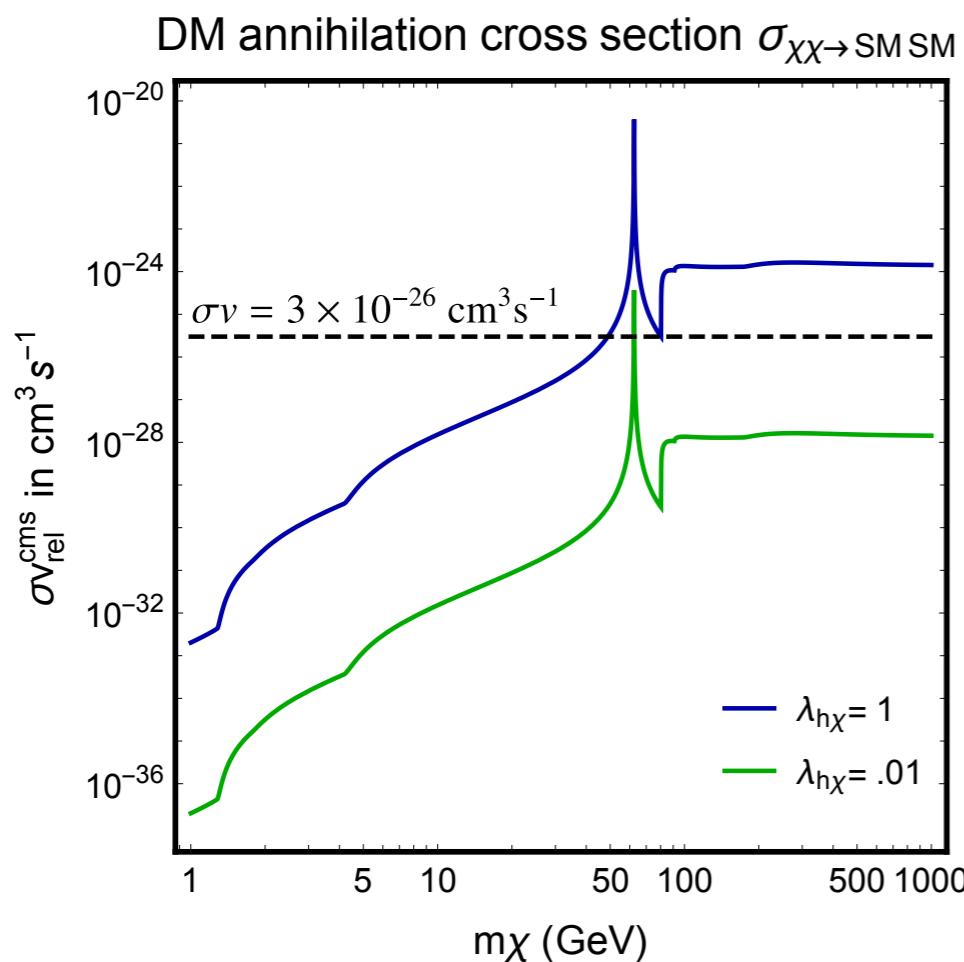
# Dark matter production

- ❖ Standard way to calculate the evolution of dark matter number density:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = - (n^2 - n_{eq}^2) \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi} v \rangle$$



Requires thermal averaging



- ❖ Use the narrow width approximation to calculate  $\sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi}$  near the resonance peak

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$$P_\chi = \frac{s}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{4m_\chi^2}{s} \right)$$

Gambit Collaboration,  
arXiv:1808.10465

# Thermal averaging quickly around the peak

- ❖ The standard thermal averaging procedure is slow where the cross section varies rapidly near the resonance

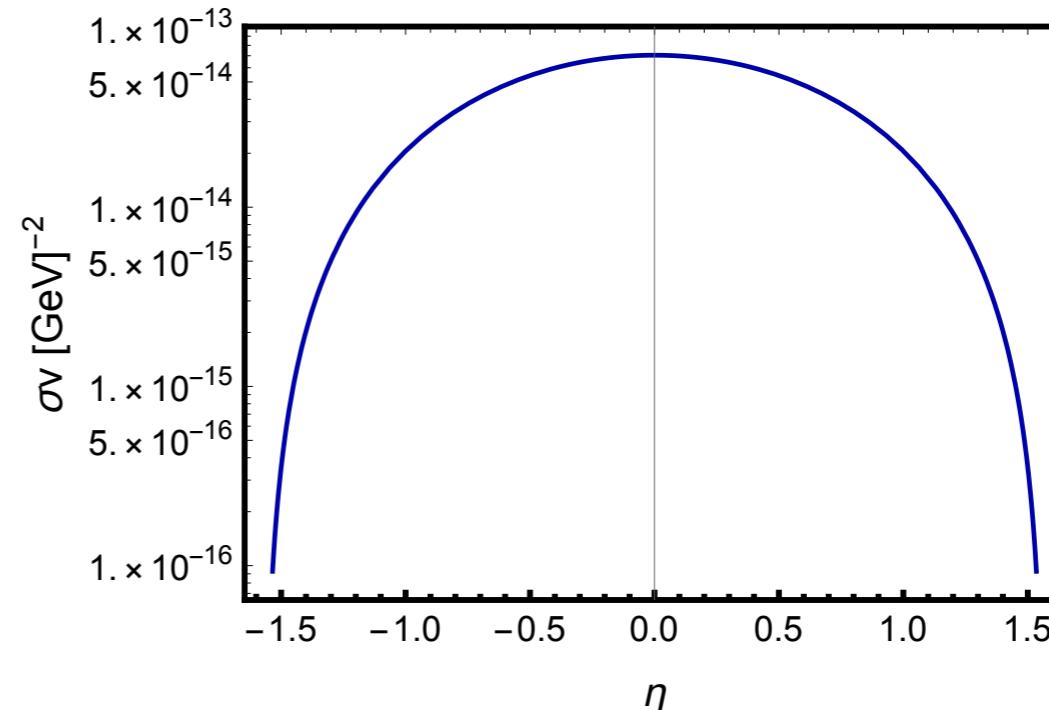
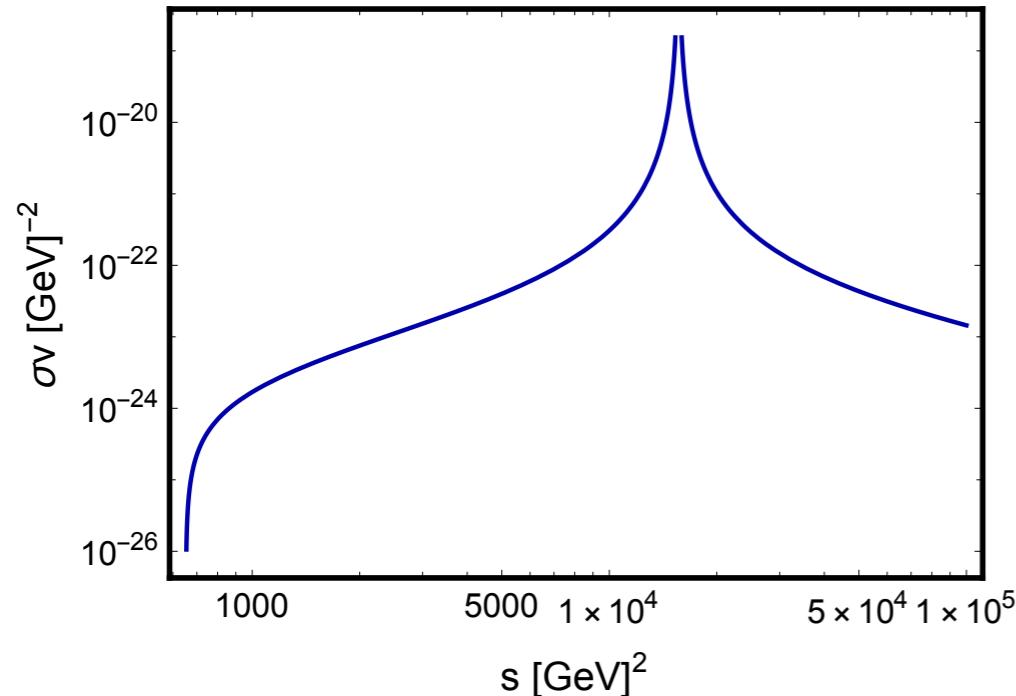
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \int_{4m_\chi^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{s \sqrt{s - 4m_\chi^2} K_1(\sqrt{s}/T)}{16T m_\chi^4 K_2(m/T)^2} \sigma v$$

- ❖ Near resonance, change variables

$$s = m_h^2 + m_h \Gamma_h \tan \eta$$

- ❖  $\sigma v$  is flat in  $\eta$  near the peak, but varies rapidly away from the resonance peak
- ❖ Break up the integral and switch sampling in each variable

# Thermal averaging quickly around the peak



$$T = 1 \text{ GeV}$$
$$\lambda_{h\chi} = 10^{-5}$$

$$s = m_h^2 + m_h \Gamma_h \tan \eta$$

- ❖  $\sigma v$  is flat in  $\eta$  near the peak, but varies rapidly away from the resonance peak
- ❖ Break up the integral and switch sampling in each variable

# Consistent thermal averaging

- ❖ Do we understand the distribution functions of the dark matter if its mass is changing with temperature?

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \int_{4m_\chi^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{s \sqrt{s - 4m_\chi^2} K_1(\sqrt{s}/T)}{16T m_\chi^4 K_2(m/T)^2} \sigma v$$

Gondolo, Gelmini (1990)

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{\int \sigma v e^{-E_1/T} e^{-E_2/T} d^3 p_1 d^3 p_2}{\int e^{-E_1/T} e^{-E_2/T} d^3 p_1 d^3 p_2}$$

# Consistent thermal averaging

- ❖ Do we understand the distribution functions of the dark matter if its mass is changing with temperature?

1. Kinetic equilibrium

$$\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > H$$

2. Reactions that establish kinetic equilibrium are faster than the mass change

$$\Gamma_{\text{scatt}} > \frac{\dot{m}}{m}$$

3. Adiabatic condition: avoid nonperturbative particle production

$$\frac{dm_\chi}{dt} < m_\chi^2$$